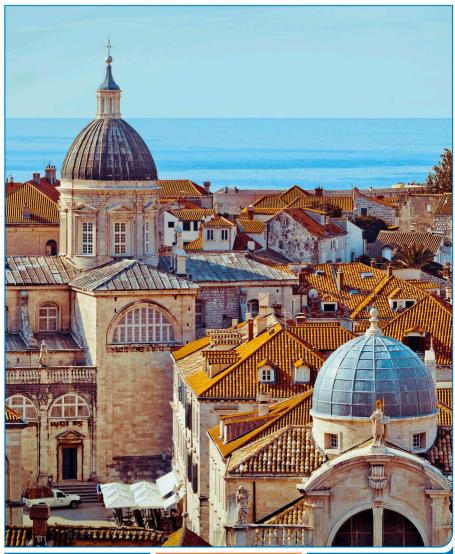


### EYEWITNESS TRAVEL

# **CROATIA**







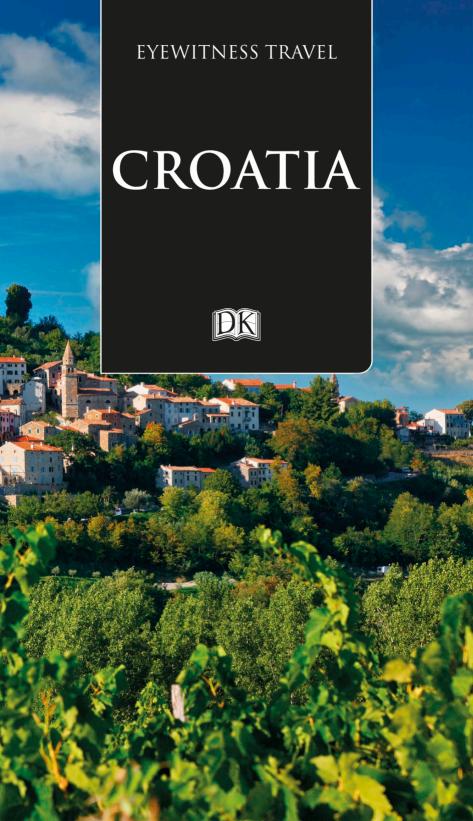


EYEWITNESS TRAVEL

## CROATIA









Produced by Fabio Ratti Editoria Srl. Milan. Italy Project Editor Donatella Ceriani

Art Editor Oriana Bianchetti

Editors Sara Cattel Emanuela Damiani Alessandra Lombardi Giovanna Morselli Endorica Pomagnoli

Main Contributors Leandro Zoppé,

Gian Enrico Venturini (Travel Information and Practical Guide)

Contributors Božidarka Boža Gligorijević, Iva Grgic, Sanja Rojić

#### Photographers

Adriano Bacchella, Aldo Pavan, Lucio Rossi, Leandro Zoppé

Cartographers Grafema Cartografia Srl, Novara LS International Cartography snc, Milano

Illustrators Modi Artistici

English Translation Susan Andrews

Dorling Kinderslev Limited

Editors Hugh Thompson, Fiona Wild

Consultant Jane Foster

Senior DTP Designer Jason Little

Production Melanie Dowland

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Floors are referred to throughout in accordance with European usage; ie the "first floor" is the floor above ground level.



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Front cover main image: The Old Town of Dubrovnik, Dalmatia



Skradinski falls, Krka National Park, Dalmatia

#### **Contents**

How to Use this Guide 6

#### Introducing Croatia

Discovering Croatia 10

**Putting Croatia** on the Map 16

A Portrait of Croatia 18

Croatia Through the Year 28

The History of Croatia 32



Naive painting of the Hlebine School, Koprivnica Gallery



#### Croatia Area by Area

Croatia at a Glance 48

Istria and the Kvarner Area **50** 

Dalmatia 90

Zagreb 154

Central Croatia **172** 

Slavonia and Baranja **184** 

The Northern Counties **202** 



Statue by Contieri, church of St Andrew, Mošćenice

#### Travellers' Needs

Where to Stay 222

Where to Eat and Drink 232



Buzara, a typical Dalmatian dish of shellfish in tomato sauce

Shopping in Croatia 250

Entertainment in Croatia 254

Outdoor Activities 258

#### Survival Guide

Practical Information **264** 

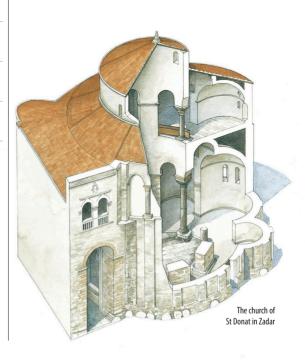
Travel Information 274

General Index 282

Phrase Book 295



The bustling harbour of Makarska



The detailed information and tips given in this guide will help you to get the most out of your visit to Croatia. Introducing Croatia maps the country and sets it in its historical and cultural context. The six sections, one dedicated to Zagreb, describe the main sights using maps, photographs and illustrations. In Istria, Kvarner and part of Dalmatia, two languages are spoken (Croatian and Italian) and two place names

may refer to the same town. Where both names are officially recognized. the Croatian name is given first, then the Italian in brackets Restaurant and hotel recommendations can be found in the section Travellers' Needs, together with information about shopping and entertainment. The Survival Guide has tips on everything from transport to making a phone call, as well as other practical matters.

#### Croatia Area by Area

Croatia has been divided into siy main areas each one identified by its own colour code. On the inside front cover is a general map of the country showing these six areas. All the most interesting places to visit are located on the Regional Map in each chapter.

Each area can be easily identified by its colour-coded DAIMATIA thumh tah Introduction This section describes the character and history of each area, highlighting its development over the centuries and what it has to offer the visitor today Detailed Information All the important towns and other places to visit are described individually. They are listed in order and follow the numbering shown on the Regional Map. Detailed

Regional Map

This shows the road network and provides an illustrated overview of the whole region. The most interesting places to visit are numbered, and there are useful tips on getting around the region by car and public transport. -

information is given about the most important sights.



The Visitors' Checklist provides practical information about transport. opening times, events and the closing dates of places of particular interest.

#### **Detailed Information** on Each Sight

The main attractions are listed for each place. A map shows the main towns, villages and beaches on the larger islands.



The town map shows the main roads, stations, car parking areas and tourist offices.

#### Street-by-Street Map

This gives a bird's-eye view of the key areas of interest in the main towns and cities with photographs and captions describing the sights.



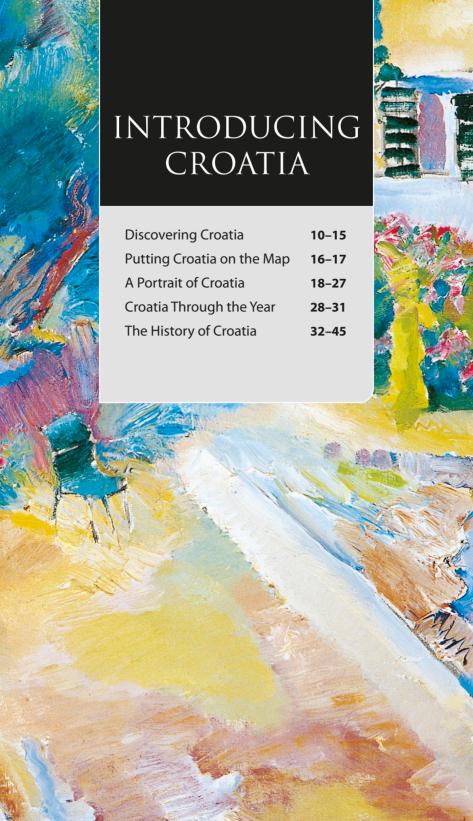
#### Croatia's Top Sights

These are given two full pages. There are cutaways or reconstructions of historic buildings, maps of national parks with information about trails and facilities available. and there are floorplans of the major museums. There are also photographs of the main sights.

Stars indicate the sights that no visitor should miss.







#### DISCOVERING CROATIA

The itineraries on the following pages have been designed to take in as many of Croatia's highlights as possible, while keeping long-distance travel manageable. First come a pair of two-day tours: one of Dubrovnik, the romantic city on the Adriatic, packed with historical monuments; the other taking in the national capital Zagreb and its absorbing mix of museums and cultural diversions.

These itineraries are perfect for a short break, or can be used to enhance one of our longer tours, such as ten days spent island-hopping on the magnificent Dalmatian coast. Finally, our two-week tour of Croatia's riches packs a feast of historical sights and natural wonders into an exhilarating fortnight. Choose or combine your favourite tours, or simply dip in and out for inspiration.



Hvar town, capital of Hvar island

Peaceful bays, a mild climate and lavender-covered hillsides characterize the islands off the Dalmatian coast.

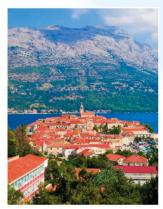
# Pula Cres Lopar Rab Rab Stinica

#### **Two Weeks in Croatia**

- Spend a day getting to know Zagreb, the nation's vibrant capital.
- Wander the cobbled streets of chic Rovinj, Istria's most charming seaside town.
- Admire Roman ruins in **Pula**, the unofficial cultural capital of the Istrian peninsula.
- Venture into Croatia's most dramatic lakeland landscape, the Plitvice Lakes National Park.
- Roam the centre of Zadar, famous for its mixture of medieval and contemporary architecture.
- Stroll the narrow alleyways of medieval
   Šibenik on the way to its stunning cathedral.

- Cool down and splash around beneath the cascading waterfalls of the Krka National Park.
- Enjoy the stone-paved squares and streets of Renaissance Trogir, one of the Adriatic's most picturesque towns.
- Revel in the energy of Split, Dalmatia's biggest port and liveliest seaside city.
- Explore historic Hvar island, home to wellpreserved towns and contemporary nightlife.
- Mix beach life with medieval history on the green island of Korčula.
- Leave plenty of time at the end of the trip to explore the fascinating walled city of **Dubrovnik**





#### Korčula island

Forested mountain slopes lead down to sandy beaches on Korčula, once a prize fought over in historic naval battles.



#### Two Days in Dubrovnik

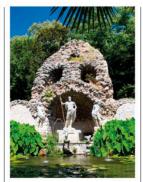
This perfectly preserved walled city is compact and easy to explore, providina a wonderful opportunity for leisurely walkina.

- Arriving Dubrovnik's airport is 22 km (13 miles) east of the city at Čilipi. A bus runs to the Old Town every 90-120 minutes.
- Moving on The bus station and ferry port, 3 km (1 mile) west of the Old Town at Gruž, offer services to the Dalmatian coast and islands.

#### Day 1

Morning Start with a tour of the city walls (p148), a popular destination that can get crowded later in the day. Follow this with a stroll along the Stradun (p150), the Old Town's main street and the site of many of its cafés. At the eastern end of Stradun, the Church of St Blaise (n151) honours the city's patron saint. Visit the nearby **Dominican Monastery** (p152) for its quiet cloisters and Renaissance paintings.

Afternoon The former Rector's Palace (p151) houses an intriguing museum. Also nearby is the Cathedral (p151), its treasury packed full of intriguing relics. Behind the cathedral lie some of the Old Town's most atmospheric alleyways, perfect for leisurely strolling.



Decorative grotto at Trsteno Arboretum. iust outside Dubrovnik

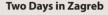
#### Day 2

Morning Take the 10-minute boat trip from the Old Port to the island of Lokrum (n152), the site of a ruined monastery, botanical gardens and numerous coves perfect for bathing. Returning to the mainland take a look at the medieval quarantine buildings of the Lazareti (n148) before taking a lunch break.

Afternoon Cool off on an out-of-town trip to the lush gardens of **Trsteno** (p152) just up the coast. Early evening is a good time to ride the Dubrovnik Cable Car (p152) up to Mount Srd to take in its stunning panoramic views.

#### To extend your trip...

Spend a day hopping your way around the unspoiled Elaphite Islands (p152) just offshore, using the local passenger ferry as transport.



Art culture and a vibrant café scene are the keynotes of this easy-aoina Central Furonean metropolis. Close in style to Vienna and Budapest, the Croatian capital is very different to the Mediterraneanflavoured towns of the Adriatic coast

- Arriving Zagreb airport is 15 km (9 miles) south of the city. Buses run to the city bus station every 30-60 minutes
- Getting around Zagreb's tram system is efficient and comprehensive. Tickets can be bought on board trams or from any newspaper kiosk.

Morning Begin your first day

#### Day 1

on Tra bana Jelačića, the city's central square, perpetually busy with pedestrians and passing trams. From here it's a short walk to the Neo-Gothic Cathedral (p158) and then the Dolac Market (p159), one of Central Europe's most colourful collections of fruit-and-yea stalls. Stroll up Radićeva street to the **Upper Town** (pp160-61). a well-preserved Baroque guarter where the Church of St Mark's is a popular landmark.

Afternoon The Zagreb City Museum (p162) will fill you in on Zagreb's eventful history, while the nearby Tower of Lotrščak (p165) offers impressive views of the downtown area. Descend to Ilica, the main shopping street. and the Croatian National Theatre (p166) in its pretty square. Return to the main square via Cvjetni trg or "Flower Square", where many of Zagreb's liveliest cafés can be found.

Morning Stroll south from the main square to the Archaeological Museum (p168), strong on prehistory and Egyptology. The nearby Gallery of Old Masters (pp170-71) is a



Dubrovnik Cable Car, offering stunning views of the walled city

superb collection of European paintings. Northwest of here, Teslina and Masarykova streets are full of lunching opportunities.

Afternoon Choose between the spectacular Museum of Contemporary Art (p169), a tram ride south of the river Sava, or the woodland delights of Maksimir Park (p169), a short tram journey to the east. If it's the park you choose, return to the centre via Mirogoj Cemetery (p169) with its rich variety of memorial sculptures.

#### Ten Days on the Dalmatian Islands

- Airports Arrive at Split and depart from Dubrovnik – although this itinerary can just as easily be followed in reverse
- Transport Split is the main ferry port for the Dalmatian islands, while Dubrovnik is connected to some of the southern islands in the group. Island-to-island routes are operated by passenger-only boat services in season.

#### Day 1: Split

Split (pp120–25) is the main ferry port of the Croatian Adriatic, and although you may pass through it more than once in the course of your island-hopping trip, it's well worth spending a day exploring this multi-layered city. The Roman remains that form the heart of modern Split provide eternally fascinating points of reference.



Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb

#### Day 2: Šolta

Nearest of the islands to Split, **Šolta** (p126) is also the least visited, and has consequently retained a great deal of charm. Ancient, stone-built villages characterize the fertile interior, while the slow-paced fishing ports of Stomorska and Maslinica offer swimming and relaxation.

#### Dav 3: Brač

You'll have to return to Split to catch a ferry to **Brač** (p126), largest of the Dalmatian islands and best-known when it comes to beach holidays. Supetar, on the northern coast, boasts broad pebble bays, while Bol to the south is the site of the spectacular Zlatni rat, a spit of fine shingle that is one of the most breathtaking bathing spots in the Adriatic.

#### Davs 4 & 5: Hvar

A catamaran service connects Bol with the port of Jelsa on **Hvar** (pp130–33), an island that cries out for a stay of two days or more. The main settlement, Hvar town, is famous for its hip bars, trendy clubs and yachting scene. A short distance away, the comparatively sleepy former fishing ports of Jelsa or Stari Grad offer a much more laidback, family-attuned experience.

#### Davs 6 & 7: Vis

Hop from Hvar to **Vis** (pp128–9) to enjoy one of the Adriatic's most characterful islands. Vis favours independent tourists rather than large hotels, and has a correspondingly relaxed atmosphere. The ports of Vis town and Komiža are beautifully unspoiled, and there are some wonderful coves for swimming. Accessible by boat from Komiža, the islet of **Biševo** is famous for the Blue Cave, a sea grotto filled with water-filtered light.

#### Days 8 & 9: Korčula

East of Vis, **Korčula** (pp138–9) is one of the most varied of the islands, with chic, fashionable Korčula town rubbing shoulders with rustic inland villages and semi-secret beaches. A popular day-trip from Korčula, Mljet is a sparsely populated, forested island taken up in large part by **Mljet National Park** (pp142–3). Inside the park are saltwater lakes, woodland trails and plenty of places to hire bikes.

#### Day 10: Dubrovnik

The sea journey from Korčula to **Dubrovnik** (pp146–53) passes many smaller islands and offers stunning views of the south Dalmatian coast – the perfect way to wind up your tour.



Small boats moored at Maslinica on the island of Šolta



Plitvice Lakes National Park, perfect for a lakeside walk or a bracing hike

#### Two Weeks in Croatia

- Airports Arrive at Zagreb and depart from Dubrovnik.
- Transport Mainland Croatia is covered by a fast and efficient bus network. You will need to use ferries to get to the islands: Split is the main passenger port for Hyar and Korčula.

#### Day 1: Zagreb

Croatia's laid-back capital city, **Zagreb** (pp154–71) is the ideal place to unwind after your inward journey. A walk round the atmospheric Upper Town sheds light on the country's eventful history, while the pedestrianized streets around Zagreb's main square, filled with pavement cafés, are alive with strollers and socializers. If you only have time for one sightseeing destination

then make it the excellent Museum of Contemporary Art, showpiece of a restless and forward-looking culture.

#### Day 2: Rovinj

Thanks to recent road improvements Zagreb is only a few hours' drive from the northern coast, where the heart-shaped Istrian peninsula juts into the Adriatic. Istria is studded with Venetian-style coastal towns and **Rovinj** (p59) is the most charming of the bunch. With its well-preserved medieval centre, quirky gallery seen and some of Croatia's best restaurants, Rovinj is the epitome of Adriatic chic.

#### Dav 3: Pula

Standing at the southern apex of the Istrian peninsula, the port city of **Pula** (pp62–5) is dominated by the 1st-century Roman arena that stands in its centre, one of the largest

surviving amphitheatres in the world. There are dramatic rocky beaches right on the outskirts of town, and Pula's restaurants are famous for offering the best of a regional cuisine rich in fish, shellfish and truffles.

#### Day 4: Rab

There are several inviting islands in the northern Adriatic but few are quite as idvllic as Rab (nn84-5). Rab town, the historic island capital is famous for its medieval churches and their soaring belfries, while the nearby villages of Lopar and Kampor sit beside some of the most spectacular sandy beaches and shallow bays in Croatia. Don't forget to try the local delicacy, Rapska torta (Rab cake), a delicious combination of light pastry and marzipan.

#### Day 5: Plitvice Lakes

Returning to the mainland. scenic roads wind their way over the Velebit mountain range a dramatically dry and rocky place on its seaward side Jush and forested further east. On the far side of the Velebit's main ridge lies the stunning Plitvice Lakes National Park (pp88-9). a frothing sequence of waterfalls, lakes and streams. Walkways weave their way around the water, while trails lead into the wilder, woodland parts of the park in the surrounding hills.



Prettily painted houses dividing turquoise sea and sky, Rovinj



Rab town, capital of the island of Rab, with its distinctive bell towers

#### Day 6: Zadar

A short drive southwest of Plitvice, **Zadar** (pp94-9) is the main seaport serving the northern Dalmatian islands. It is also one of the rising stars of Adriatic tourism with hold new public artworks such as Sea Organ and Greeting to the Sun by architect Nikola Bašić giving the seafront of this vibrant peninsula city a uniquely contemporary feel. There is a wealth of Roman and medieval monuments to explore and the main food market is one of the liveliest on the coast An evening stroll along the promenade is compulsory: sunsets here are spectacular.

#### Day 7: Šibenik

The main city of mid-Dalmatia, **Šibenik** (pp108–11), is steeped in history, with a warren of picturesque alleyways jostling below an impressive ensemble of hilltop fortresses. Local restaurants serve outstanding fresh seafood and superb local wines, especially the dry red Babić from nearby Primošten.

#### Day 8: Krka National Park

Šibenik is the ideal base from which to visit the spectacular **Krka National Park** just inland (pp106–7), an extensive natural wonderland that you will need a whole day to explore. The pretty town of Skradin is the gateway to Skradinski buk, where you can bathe beside waterfalls and visit old watermills. Boat trips take you deeper into the park, through lakes and canyons.

#### Day 9: Trogir

Lying between Sibenik and Split, **Trogir** (pp114–17) is one of the most delightful small towns of the Croatian Adriatic, not least because of the medieval cathedral that towers above the Old Town. Trogir's perfectly preserved web of tiny streets and small squares is ideal for long evening walks; plentiful harbour-side cafés will help you unwind.

#### Day 10: Split

The unofficial capital of the Adriatic and its main passenger port, **Split** (pp120–25) is one of those Mediterranean cities that simply bubbles with character. It was founded as a retirement home by the Roman emperor Diocletian, and the remains of his palace still form the core of the Old Town. Crammed with cafés and bars, this buzzing hive of daytime and night-time activity represents maritime Croatia at its most vivacious.

#### Day 11: Hyar

A short ferry ride from Split, **Hvar** (pp130–33) is an outstanding example of what makes the new Croatia so popular with visitors. Cocktail bars and yacht marinas add contemporary swank to the Renaissance backdrop of Hvar town, while elsewhere on the island, sleepy villages and pebble-beached coves offer up a soothing blend of rest and relaxation.



Monastery of St. Dominic, Trogir

#### Day 12: Korčula

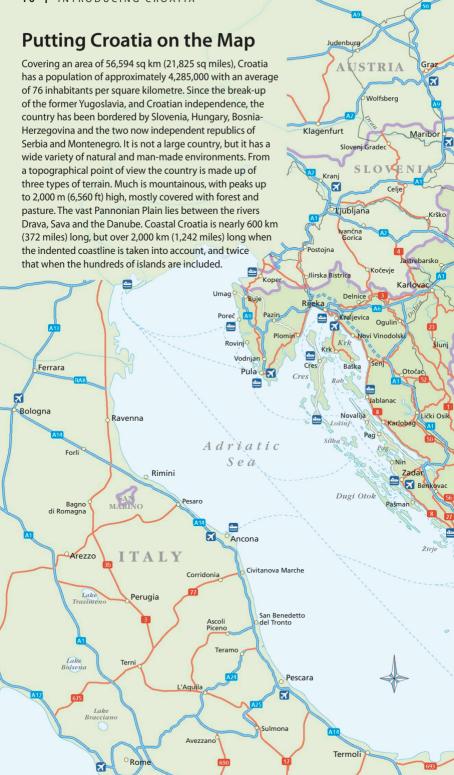
The turreted medieval town of **Korčula** (pp138–9) is one of the coast's historic gems, its solidstone core of ancient houses split by tiny stepped streets. Some of Croatia's best beaches lie just out of town at Lumbarda. Korčula is known for fine wines and seafood, although many village restaurants in the island's interior serve up delicious roast meast. Don't leave without sampling cukarin, a delicious local citrus-flavoured biscuit.

#### Days 13 & 14: Dubrovnik

After a short ferry-hop from Korčula, travelling to **Dubrovnik** by land takes you along the Pelješac peninsula, famous for its red wines and oysters – stop for lunch at Ston (*p137*) to enjoy both. Once in Dubrovnik itself you will need at least a day and a half to get the best out of this enchanting city: see the two-day itinerary on p12 for ideas.



Pula's Roman amphitheatre, now used to stage concerts and other events







#### A PORTRAIT OF CROATIA

Croatia forms a meeting point between the Mediterranean and central Europe, and between the Alps and the Pannonian Plain. Its relatively small territory is made up of a wide variety of landscapes. A stunningly beautiful country, it has re-emerged from the difficult years of conflict and regained its role as a popular holiday destination.

Croatia seceded from the Federal Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia in 1990, following the first free elections since World War II. However, the brutal conflict that quickly followed had disastrous effects on the economy and led to the damage and destruction of many historic monuments and treasures. The United Nations administered disputed territories until 1995, and the last region, Eastern Slavonia, was returned to Croatian administration in January 1998.

The resolution of the conflict recreated a country which had lost its autonomy long ago in 1102, when Croatian nobles handed the vacant crown to King Koloman. Under Koloman, Croatia became part of Hungary and remained so for 900 years, until 1918. At the end

of World War I, Croatia declared independence but, under pressure from greater powers, agreed to become part of the kingdom of Yugoslavia. From the ruins of the Habsburg empire emerged Yugoslavia: a new state of Serbs, Croatians and Slovenes.

Few people live in the steep mountainous areas and as a result the forests of this region, among the most beautiful in southern Europe, are unspoilt. The coast and larger islands are more densely populated and the income from tourism is important to many. The political upheavals of the last decade of the 20th century have caused a shifting of the population and many Serbs have moved away.



Zrmanja river valley, running below the Velebit mountains, Dalmatia



Fisherman mending his nets in the port of Fažana

#### **Population**

According to a census carried out in 2011. Croatia has a population of 4.284.889. Compared with the census of 2001, this is a decrease of nearly 155,000 in the population. These figures. a reflection of the upheavals of the 1990s. reduce the numbers to the population levels of 1968. Two different factors were responsible for these changes: firstly. the departure of thousands of Serbians (partially offset by the return of Croatians resident in other parts of former Yugoslavia). and secondly, the emigration of many young people in search of work in other countries in

The tragic events of the 1990s have also altered the distribution of the population, emptying villages and concentrating populations in large urban centres. Changes to the size of many towns and cities. the result of enlarging their territorial boundaries, make detailed

Europe, America or Australia.

analysis difficult, particularly with regard to Zagreb, Rijeka, Split, Osijek and Zadar.

#### **Economy**

Manufacturing industries are concentrated in the larger cities and employ 20 per cent of the population. The service industry is being overhauled

and provides employment for an increasing number of workers. mainly in the tourist sector, which has recovered after a decade of recession and neglect: 7 per cent of the population is employed in this area. Demand for fresh fish to supply the tourist resorts means that the fishing industry has revived and mussel farming has also expanded, in particular along the Limski Channel and around Ston. The privatization of much agricultural land, and the introduction of modern machinery

and the rationalization of crops have reduced the number of farm workers. However, the production of fruit and wine grapes has recovered, and overall quality is improving significantly.

The urgent need to rebuild public and privately owned buildings damaged during the conflict in the 1990s and the ever-increasing demand for tourist facilities keeps the numbers employed in the building trade high:

7 per cent of the workforce is involved in the construction industry. However, in spite of an improved standard of living for most of the population. unemployment is still high. Croatia hopes to resolve most

of its employment problems now that it has joined the European Union, offering land, energy and labour at competitive costs. The building of a modern road network with the construction of new motorways, the modernization

of the railways and plans to improve the ports will also help to alleviate high unemployment levels.

#### **Traditions and Customs**

Woman in the typical

costume of Konavle

Since the rebirth of the Croatian state, all kinds of traditional festivals have reappeared. These festivals, ceremonies or games commemorate historical, religious and military events. Some festivals are expressions of primitive or ancient faith, and mix Christianity with ancient pagan rites; others are linked to the religious calendar. Traditional costumes and jewellery, carefully preserved by the older generation, are worn on these occasions. The materials may sometimes be new but the designs stay faithfully traditional.

Other expressions of popular culture are the rites linked to the rhythms of farming: harvesting, bringing flocks down from the mountains, felling trees. The Feast of St Blaise, the patron. saint of Dubrovnik, is magnificent. People from local and surrounding parishes gather, dressed in splendid costumes and displaying ancient banners in honour of the saint Even the communists were unable to suppress this tradition. Another spectacular festivity is the Olympics of Ancient Sports in Brođanci, when voung people parade in goldembroidered costumes, followed by groups of musicians. Other important events are the Festival of the Bumbari in Vodnian with its donkey race, the Folk Festival in Đakovo and the Moreška and Kumpanija festivals in Korčula, commemorating battles against the Ottoman Turks.



Visitors admiring historic buildings in Split's Old Town



One of many religious events in Split

#### Language

The attempt to fuse the Croatian and Serbian languages lasted more than a century, but in 1991 the official language of Croatia became Croatian, and this is now part of the constitution. The language has always been a fundamental part of Croatian identity, even under foreign domination. The people continue to use three basic dialects, *štokavski* in southern and eastern Croatia, *čakavski* in Istria and parts of Dalmatia, and *kajkavski* in Zagreb and the north. A dialect similar to Venetian is spoken along the coast.

#### Religion

Religious feeling has always been important to Croatians. Religion was relegated to a secondary role during the communist period but the

great sanctuaries are once again centres of spirituality. In the 2011 census, 90 per cent declared they were Christian (86 per cent Catholic, 4 per cent Orthodox), with a Muslim minority, mostly Bosnians, and a Protestant minority. mostly Hungarians. The Orthodox community has shrunk due to the fall in the number of Serbians.

#### The Landscape and Wildlife of Croatia

A wide variety of landscapes can be found in Croatia, from wild uninhabited craggy gorges to steep river valleys and a stunningly beautiful indented coastline stretching into the lower Adriatic, dotted with hundreds of islands. A plateau stretches from the Istrian peninsula towards Gorski kotar and ends in the hilly vine-growing region of Zagorie. The geological formations produced by the porous limestone terrain called karst are found in Gorski kotar and continue to nearby Istria and the Velebit mountains, where the combination of wind, rain and rock has created strange shapes called kukovi. Nicknames and legends have been created by folklore for these rock formations, and for the thousands of rocky islands off the coast, remnants of an ancient mountain chain



Seagull perched on a rocky outcrop near the island of Pag



Mountains form 40 per cent of Croatia and rise to nearly 2,000 m (6,560 ft) high. The higher land is given over to sheep farming and the breeding of livestock. The forests are mixed, with pine, fir, chestnut and beech, depending on altitude and microclimate. The wildlife includes bears, wolves, wild boar, lynxes, badgers, foxes, roebucks and chamois, Forestry management aims to control deforestation.



The plain is bordered by wide rivers which also define Croatia's borders for much of their length. The vast Pannonian Plain is the breadbasket of Croatia. Maize, wheat, soya and tobacco are grown here and at the fringes are vine-covered hills. At one time there were forests here. dominated by the Slavonian oak, much soughtafter in Europe for the quality of its wood. A few isolated remnants of these forests can still be seen.



The forests are a precious resource in Croatia. Thick vegetation covers more than 30 per cent of the country.

The chamois was thought to have disappeared from Croatia but there are now a dozen or so animals originating from Slovenia.



The Croatian plain is one of the most fertile areas in Europe. Some agricultural produce is exported.



The oak of Slavonia famous since ancient times. was used to build most of the ships in the Venetian and Dubrovnik fleets, because of its extraordinary strength.



#### National Parks

Croatia began protecting wildlife areas of particular importance in 1949 by setting up the Plitvice Lakes National Park on the Lika plateau. A few years later, the Risniak National Park was founded north of Rijeka. then in 1985 the Krka National Park north of Šibenik The Paklenica National Park at the heart of the Velebit mountain chain, dates from 1949. In 1978 it was declared a world biosphere reserve by UNESCO and later included on the list of World Heritage Sites. It is home to over 2,400 species of plant. There are four national parks in the Adriatic: the Mliet National Park, founded in 1960. the Kornati National Park (1980), the Brijuni National Park



Risniak National Park with its thick forests of fir and booch

(1983) and the North Velebit National Park (1999). There are also nature reserves, oases, biotopes (environments characterized by particular conditions) and two marshes: Kopački rit and Lonisko polie. In 2008, Stari Grad Plain on the island of Hyar was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



#### The Coast

The coast's appearance is determined by the extent of its exposure to the fierce, northeast bora wind. Mediterranean flora flourishes on the sheltered side, with olives, lemon trees and vines, Low-growing vines are cultivated along the central part of the coast and on some of the islands. sheltered from the wind by stone walls. Two common plants along the coast and on the islands are lavender, particularly on Hvar, and broom.



The marine life is extraordinarily varied, with a wide range of species including sea-horses.





#### Lakes and Rivers

The lakes of Croatia are not large, but some are truly spectacular, as for example those of Plitvice and those formed by the River Krka. The rivers are another of Croatia's valuable resources. The Danube, Drava, Sava and Kupa are all navigable and form international transport routes (although traffic is currently partly interrupted). The rivers abound with a variety of fish and are a big attraction for fishing enthusiasts.



Waterlilies are in flower in late spring. particularly in Lonisko polie and Kopački rit.



Storks live near the rivers as well as Croatia The wetlands make an ideal habitat for the rare black stork.

#### Art and Artists in Croatia

For centuries Croatian art has combined elements from eastern and western Europe. The coast was ruled by Venice for 400 years, and between the Middle Ages and the 17th century, Croatia was in regular contact with the other side of the Adriatic, Italian artists came to the islands to work, and the Dalmatians crossed the sea and brought Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance styles back to their country. After the expulsion of the Turks at the end of the 17th century, many churches were rebuilt in the Baroque style, and acquired rich ornamentation. The 20th century saw the advent of Naive painting, an important artistic trend, and sculptor Ivan Meštrović was confirmed as Croatia's most famous contemporary artist (see p163).



Maria Banac, sculpture by Ivan Meštrović

#### Sculpture

The art of sculpture in Croatia has ancient origins and may have been inspired by the local stone, used to construct some of the most important Roman monuments in Pula and Split, which became models for future generations of Adriatic sculptors.

Sculpture and stone carving reached the height of expression with the Romanesque style. Dating from this time are the cathedral doors of Trogir and Split, the rose windows of Zadar and Rab, the capitals in the cloisters in Dubrovnik and 7adar, and much church statuary. The technical skills of the Renaissance period are documented in Šibenik cathedral with masternieces by Jurai Dalmatinac, Nikola Firentinac and Andrija Aleši.

The stonemasons should also be remembered, particularly those of Korčula. Decades of skilled work went into Korčula cathedral and the masons' work can be seen in hundreds of other Croatian towns and cities

Sculpture again reached a peak in the 20th century with Ivan Meštrović, the chief figure in a group of great artists which included Antun Augustinčić.

#### Andriia Buvina

All that is known of this sculptor is that he was born in Split and lived in the



Wooden panel by Andrija Buyina in Split cathedral

13th century. The great door of the cathedral of his native city is testament to his skill. This masterpiece from 1214 consists of 28 wooden panels depicting scenes from the Gospels of the life of Christ. and uses simple lines allied to a wealth of detail.

#### Master Radovan

The sculptor Master Radovan was of Dalmatian origin and



The door of the cathedral of Trogir by Master Radovan

lived in the 13th century. His name appears on the door of the cathedral in Trogir, which he started in about 1240 and which was later completed by other artists. This complex masterniece has columns arches, sculpted relief figures and rich decoration. It is possible to discern scenes from the life of Christ such as the nnunciation, the Flight to Egypt, and the Martyrdom on Golgotha, while other sculptures represent the months of the vear. The artist's expressive skill is revealed in the figures of Adam and Eve in particular.

#### Jurai Dalmatinac

Juraj Dalmatinac, also known as Giorgio Orsini, was an ambassador for Dalmatian art, which was greatly influenced by Venice. The artist was born in Zadar in about 1400 and died in 1475. He was active in Dalmatia and in Italy as a sculptor and

an architect. The cathedral of St James in Šibenik (see pp110-11), to which he contributed is regarded as a masterpiece of the Croatian Renaissance. Dalmatinac sculpted the faces on the upper part

Face by Dalmatinac in the cathedral of Šibenik

of the base of the apses and also the statues of Adam and Eve at either side of the Door of Lions.

#### Artists

Painting in Croatia cannot boast a history equal to that of sculpture since it was only after contact with the Venetian school at the end of the 16th century that Croatian painting emerged in Istria and Dalmatia. The monasteries and cathedrals commissioned Venetian masters to make altarpieces and in emulating these models the great artists of Dubrovnik developed.

In the late 17th and 18th centuries, the Baroque style predominated in inland Croatia in architecture as well as art. Baroque originated in German-speaking areas and inspired local artists: the Austrian artist Ivan Ranger (see p210) was a key figure. Interest in religious paintings then dwindled, and in the 19th century, young artists were inspired by pan-European culture. In the 1930s and 1940s Naive Art developed.



Dance of Death by Vincent od Kastva

#### Vincent od Kastva

One of the most expressive cycles of frescoes in Istria bears the signature of this Istrian painter Vincent od Kastva (Vincenzo da Castua) who lived in the 15th century The frescoes are hidden away in the small church of St Mary (Sv. Marija na Škrilijnah) in Beram The brightly coloured frescoes on the side walls and the inside facade were nainted with assistants in about 1471 and have a primitive but vigorous style. The Life of Christ and the Virain has figures of saints: the bestknown work is the Dance of Death where Death holding a scythe, punishes sinners. here represented by all the most powerful people on earth (from the pope to lords of the manor).

#### Lovro Dobričević

Little is known of Lovro Marinov Dobričević (Lorenzo de Boninis), pupil of Paolo

> Veneziano who lived in the 15th century and is regarded as one of the most significant exponents of the Dubrovnik school. Two of his great works are in Dubrovnik: the Baptism of Christ (c 1448) is in the Dominican Museum and the polyptych Virain, Christ and the

Saints Iulian and Nicholas (1465) is in the church of St Mary of Danče (Sv. Marije na Dančama).



Detail, polyptych by Loyro Dobričević in the church of St Mary of Danče

#### Juliie Klović

Juliie Klović (Giulio Clovio) was one of the most famous Renaissance miniaturists A native of Croatia (he was

born in Grižane in 1498), his most significant works are found outside the country. The painter developed his craft in Venice. and was then summoned to work in Rome. Mantua, Perugia and numerous monasteries. He died in Rome in 1578



by Klović

#### The Hlebine School

Krsto Hegedušić (1901–75), Expressionist painter and later a Naive artist, founded a group of artists called Zemlia ("Earth"). He encouraged the work of two amateur painters from the village of Hlebine, near Koprivnica: Ivan Generalić and Franjo Mraz, who depicted their local world on glass and canvas in fresh, vivid style. Together with Mirko Virius they founded the Hlebine School which flourished from 1930 to



Woodcutters by Generalić, Museum of Naive Art, Zagreb

the beginning of World War II. Many other painters, including Ivan Večenaj, Dragan Gaži, Franjo Filipović and Josip Generalić, followed their ideas, concentrating on depicting the lives of outcasts, the poor, and working folk. The Hlebine School became a worldwide phenomenon with the 1952 Venice Biennale and exhibitions in Brazil and Brussels. Naive works are on show at the Hlebine Gallery in Koprivnica and the Museum of Naive Art in Zagreb.

#### **Architecture in Croatia**

Croatian architecture, like its art, has also been influenced by Croatia's position in Europe. Secular and religious buildings display a fusion of elements from nearby Italy and Germany and other forms originating in the Byzantine or Slavic worlds. This blending of influences was first noticeable in the time of the Romans and still continues today. Some styles became particularly important; for example the impressive cathedrals of the Adriatic coast. the legacy of many centuries of Venetian rule. In inland Croatia Baroque architecture prevails, characterized by exuberant decoration and expansive forms.



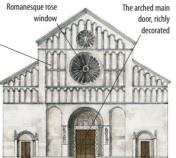
The Byzantine Euphrasian Basilica in Poreč

#### Pre-Romanesque and Romanesque

True Croatian architecture begins with pre-Romanesque and dates back to the time of Duke Branimir (879–92), who created the first state of Croatia. Contact with the Byzantine world influenced the look of religious buildings in Istria and Dalmatia but some decorative elements reveal the first signs of Romanesque: small churches with irregular ground-plans appear in areas inhabited by Croatian tribes. The founding of Šibenik (1066) saw the first Romanesque buildings, introduced by the Cistercians. The style spread and remained popular until the end of the 16th century, and three-aisle cathedrals with apses were built as well as monasteries with cloisters, public buildings, town halls and loggias.



#### The Cathedral of St Anastasia in Zadar (see p.96), founded in the 9th century but rebuilt in the 12th-13th, shows the links between Croatian and Italian Romanesque. particularly in the facade, similar to churches found in Pisa and Lucca in Italy.





The Church of the Holy Cross in Nin (see n102) one of the most interesting examples of the pre-Romanesque and known as the world's smallest cathedral, was built in the 9th century. It has a Greek cross groundplan with three apses. It is positioned to ensure that . the sun's rays fall in preplanned positions on the floor and act as a clock.

The door with

#### Gothic

The Gothic style, more than any other in Croatia, is lasting evidence of the long rule of the Venetians along the Istrian and Dalmatian coasts. It developed following the Venetian conquest of the Adriatic coast (1420) and is a fundamental expression of the close contact that was established. Venetian Gothic not only influenced the design of Dalmatian and Istrian churches but also mansions in Pula, Rab. Pag. Zadar, Šibenik and Split.



Facade of the Town Hall in Split

#### The Cathedral of St Mark in Korčula

(see p138) is of Romanesque origins - the bell tower is evidence of this. The façade shows similarities with churches in Puglia in southern Italy. Gothic elements include the pointed arches over the entrance door, which was the work of Bonino of Milan.



#### Renaissance

The Renaissance style was only able to develop in those parts of the country which did not fall under Turkish rule. The most important architects and artists of the time were Jurai Dalmatinac (see n24). Nikola Firentinac and Andrija Aleši. who worked mainly along the Adriatic coast They were all involved in the construction of churches and public buildings. The cathedral of St James in Šibenik (see pp.110–11) became a model for the churches of St Stephen in Hyar. St Mary in Zadar and St Saviour in Dubrovnik, Renaissance buildings also appeared in the north of Croatia, both in the form of private residences (Varaždin and Čakovec) and castles (Trakošćan and Veliki Tabor).



The second storey with windows and a statue of the city's natron saint St Blaise in the centre, was a later addition

The windows in Venetian Gothic symbolize the ties hetween Dubrovnik and Venice

Sponza Palace in Dubrovnik (see p.150) has both Gothic and Renaissance elements, a reflection of the time it took to build. It was begun in 1312 (the beautiful Gothic windows on the first floor date from this period) and remodelled in 1516-22, when the Renaissance arcaded loggia on the ground floor was added.



#### Baroque

This was the style that characterized the legitimization of Christian worship in Croatia after the expulsion of the Turks at the end of the 17th century. The signs of Ottoman rule were eradicated and architects, mainly of German extraction, constructed public and private buildings, enriching them with ornate decorations equal to those of the churches. castles and sanctuaries. The most notable examples of the Baroque style can be found in Varaždin, Požega, Osijek, Križevci, Ludbreg and Krapina.

Voiković-Oršić-Kulmer-Rauch Palace, now home of the Croatian Historical Museum (see p164), is one of many fine Baroque buildings in Zagreb. The facade and interior have the sumptuous decorations of the time with elegant columns, scalloped windows and a decorated tympanum.

#### Modernism

By the 19th century Zagreb had become the centre of political and cultural life in Croatia. which gave it a prominent role as leader in the architectural field. Much experimentation took place in the following century in the capital, inspired first by the Viennese Secession style and later by Modernism. The church of St Blaise and Villa Krauss are interesting examples of the latter style.



The Neo-Renaissance Mimara Museum in Zagreb



The former National and University Library in the centre of Marulić Square in Zagreb was designed by a local architect, Rudolf Lubinsky. It is regarded as the most significant work in the Secession style in Croatia.

#### On the facade

bas-reliefs by the Croatian artists Robert Franceš-Mihanović and Rudolf Valdec.

#### CROATIA THROUGH THE YEAR

The upheavals of the decade from 1991 to 2000 inevitably affected the calender of events which characterized the cultural life of Croatia, However, concerts, theatre seasons and sporting events have now largely been resumed along with religious festivals and a variety of events linked to local traditions. The different stages in the agricultural year, such as the grape harvest and the threshing, fishing and hunting seasons, are also marked. In addition, every town celebrates its patron saint's day and the "town's day", which is linked to episodes in the town's history. Zagreb offers a rich calendar of cultural events all through the year while the festivals in the towns and villages along the coast are generally held during the summer season.

#### Spring

The arrival of spring in Croatia coincides with a series of important dates in the religious calendar. Spring brings warmer weather and also sees the beginning of a series of festivals and events which continue throughout the summer. Catholic churches are especially busy around Easter time with its associated rituals



Procession during Holy Week on the island of Korčula

#### March

Holy Week (Easter). On Korčula Easter is celebrated with processions of brotherhoods performing mystery plays and singing.

Dora Peiačević Memorial. Našice (Mar). Music festival commemorating this Croatian composer, with concerts and competitions.

#### April

#### Musical Biennial of Zagreb

(Apr). Festival of modern music. St George's Day, Seni (23 Apr). St Vincenca's Day. Korčula (28 Apr). The Kumpaniiia dance which commemorates an ancient battle, is performed. At the finale local girls in costume dance in a circle.

Regatta Rovini-Pesaro- Rovini. Rovinj (late Apr/early May). Sailing race to Italy and back with various associated events.

#### May

#### Croatian Wine Exhibition

Kutievo (May). Displays of Croatian wines plus a folklore and music programme.

Days of Hyar Theatre, Hyar (May). Annual celebration of Croatian literature and theatre. as well as scientific themes and presentations by scientists from other countries.

St Mark's Festival, Zagreb (May). Sacred music at various venues. Tournament of Rab (9 May). Parade of costumed riders with crosshows

International Small Scene Theatre Festival, Rijeka (first half of May). Groups from all over Europe participate.

Josip Štolcer Slavenski Memorial. Čakovec (first half of

May). Musical festival dedicated to the great 20th-century Croatian composer.

**Festival of Croatian Tambour** Music, Osijek (mid-Mav). Festival of ancient music with period instruments, including

Croatian One-Minute-Film Festival, Požega (end May). Screenings of short amateur films and videos

the tambour.

#### Summer

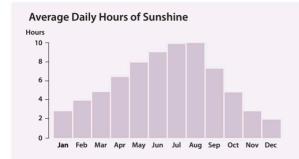
As this is the season when most tourists visit Croatia particularly Istria and Dalmatia this is also the neriod when the calendar of events is busiest. There are festivals dedicated to music theatre and dance as well as many traditional festivals. The folk festivals held throughout the summer are particularly colourful events

#### June

Dance Week, Zagreb (end May/Jun), International festival of dance, movement and mime, organized in collaboration with European associations. Music events. Pula (all summer). Various events in the Roman amphitheatre. Festival of Satire. 7agreb (Jun). International festival celebrating the satirical. Brodsko kolo. Slavonski Brod (mid-Jun). Displays of



The festival of Brodsko Kolo. Slavonski Brod



#### Sunshine

The Dalmatian coast is one of the sunniest parts of Europe, and the island of Hyar holds the record with its 2.700 hours of sun a year. The summers along the coast are hot and dry while the inland areas have a continental climate with hot summers and cold winters.



Đakovački Vezovi, a folklore and embroidery festival in Đakovo

folk dancing in costume, shows and exhibitions of regional produce.

Đakovački vezovi. Đakovo (mid-Jun-early Jul). Folklore displays and exhibition of local embroidery.

#### Summer of Margherita,

Bakar (Jun/Jul), Concerts and performances in the local čakavski dialect

#### International Children's Festival. Šibenik (end.

Jun-beginning Jul). Festival dedicated to the creativity of the very young. Music, dance, theatre and film.

#### July

Summer Festival, Hvar (Jul). A fun festival of music, theatre, folklore and dancing. Festival klapa, Omiš (Jul). Celebration of traditional Dalmatian songs performed by groups of five to ten men. Rapska fjera, Rab (Jul). For three days the historic town of Rab is returned to

medieval times, with craft displays, public preparation of traditional dishes and an archery tournament.

#### International Jazz Festival

Grožnian (Jul). International jazz artists participate in this festival in the picturesque Istrian town of Grožnian.

Summer Carnival, Novi Vinodolski (Iul)

International Festival of Theatre, Pula (Jul), Multimedia

festival with the participation of other European groups. St Theodore's Day, Korčula (29 Jul). Features the Moreška. a dance re-enacting a battle between Christians and Muslims.

International Tennis Tournament, Umag (end Jul). International Folklore Festival, Zagreb (end Jul). Croatian music and dance with international quests. Pag Carnival, Pag (end Jul). Traditional dancing, kolo, and various shows with the local people in traditional costumes. Labin Art Republic, Labin (Jul-Aug). Classical and folk concerts. Musical Evenings in St Donat, Zadar (mid-Jul-beginning Aug). Church theatre and

instrumental music Osor Music Festival Osor (mid-Jul-mid-Aug). Chamber music. Split Summer (mid-Jul-mid-Aua).

A programme of opera. concerts, dance, theatre and performances of the first plays written in the Croatian language

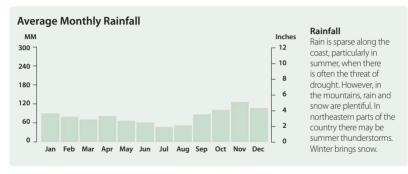
Dubrovnik Summer Festival. Dubrovnik (mid-Jul-end Aug). The oldest international festival in Croatia: music, theatre, folklore. ballet, with performers from many countries

Krk Summer Events, Krk (Jul-Aug). Music and prose, concerts, ballet, performances by young artists and folklore.

Concerts in the Basilica of Euphrasius, Poreč (Jul–mid Sep). Performances of church and secular music given by Croatian and European musicians.



The Moreška dance, St Theodore's Day, Korčula





Costumed jousters on horseback during the folk festival, Sinj

#### August

Pag Art Festival, Pag (Aug). This small island's world-famous pianist, Lovro Pogorelić, organizes a two-week programme of classical music concerts and other artistic events, attracting international performers. Siniska alka, Sini (beainnina Aug). Folklore festival commemorating victory over the Turks, with jousting competitions for horse riders. Parades, dancing, folk music and displays of regional produce. Balianska noć, Bale (first Sun in Aug). Festival of the city.

Festival of the Bumbari.

Vodnjan (2nd Sat in Aug). "Bumbari" is what the local people call themselves. A folk festival in costume with an unusual donkey race and the preparation of kroštule (crostoli). cakes of Venetian origin. St Roch's Day, Žrnovo and Postrana (on Korčula) (16 Aug). Events include the Mostra, a traditional sword dance. At one time the festivities ended with the sacrifice of an ox. Trka na prstenac, Barban (3rd weekend in Aug). Jousting tournament, dating back to 1696. Olympics of Ancient Sports, Brođanci (last Sun in Aua), Folk festival with traditional games. costumes and musicians playing in the streets.



Festival of Vinkovačke Jeseni, Vinkovci

#### Autumn

Visiting Croatia in this season means there are fewer crowds. even along the busy Adriatic coast. However this season also offers an unexpectedly rich and varied calendar of events. Many of the events are cultural but there are also several festivals celebrating wine and food – offering an ideal opportunity to discover some of the local produce of this country.

September Festival of the Golden Strings of Slavonia, Požega

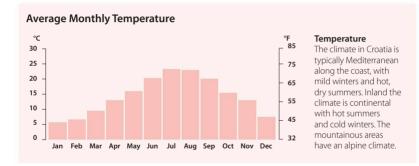
(Sen). Festival of folk and modern music using the traditional Slavonian instrument, the tamburica. Lace Exhibition, Lepoglava (Sep), Exhibition of traditional hand-made lace. still made according to ancient methods.

Week of Kaikavian Culture. Krapina (Sep). Festival of Kaikavian poetry, folk music and painting.

International Doll Festival Zagreb (Sep).

> Vinkovačke jeseni, Vinkovci (Sep). Festival of music and folk traditions, Parades in costume.

Grape Festival, Buje (3rd weekend in Sep). Baroque Evenings in Varaždin. Varaždin (second half of Sepfirst half of Oct). Festival of Baroque music with the participation of top Croatian and European musicians.



#### October

**Bela nedeja**, Kastav (first Sun in Oct). Wine festival. **Marunada**, Lovran (mid-Oct). Chestnut festival

Olive Days, Punat (Oct). A great opportunity to participate in the olive harvest festivities on the island of Krk. Visitors can pick olives to the strains of fluting sopile music, then enjoy an olive-based feast, prepared by competing cooks from all over Croatia, in the evening.

The Town's Day, Lipik

(4 Oct). Traditional festival celebrating the town.

#### November

St Martin's Day, Dugo Selo, Samobor, Sv. Ivan Zelina, Velika Gorica, Zagreb County (Nov). A traditional wine festival that celebrates the period when the must is turned into wine.

#### Winter

The cold makes itself felt throughout Croatia, with the temperatures in Zagreb and Slavonia dropping well below freezing point and the cold bora wind sweeping across Istria and Dalmatia. But Croatians still love to go out and enjoy themselves and attend cultural events.

#### December

**The Town's Day**, Osijek (2 Dec). Celebration of Osijek's main feast day with music and dancing.

Advent in Zagreb (Dec). Musical, artistic and gastronomical events are held in the city's squares to celebrate the Christmas season.

#### January

St Vincent's Day, Međimurje (late Jan). Join local growers to toast the patron saint of wine, with tastings, food and music.

E t

Costume at the Carnival of Lastovo

#### February Feast of St Blaise.

Dubrovnik (3 Feb).
Processions celebrating the town's saint.

Shrovetide sezona, Kraljevica. Traditional masked ball.

Carnival of Rijeka, Rijeka. Colourful parade in

elaborate costumes.

Carnival of the Riviera, Opatija.
International Violin
Competition (Vaclav Huml),
Zagreb (first half of Feb).
For violinists under 30.
Carnival. Lastovo.



Epiphany 6 Jan
Easter Sunday and
Monday Mar or Apr
Labour Day 1 May
Corpus Christi May or Jun

Anti-Fascist Victory

Day 22 Jun

Statehood Day 25 Jun Victory and National

Thanksgiving Day 5 Aug

Assumption Day 15 Aug Independence Day 8 Oct All Saints' Day 1 Nov Christmas 25 Dec

Boxing Day 26 Dec



A Baroque music ensemble playing in the cathedral, Varaždin



# THE HISTORY OF CROATIA

Situated between eastern and western Europe, Croatia has long been a land of passage but also a point of contact between different worlds and cultures. Diverse events and cultural influences have all contributed to the country's history. Croatia is particularly proud of its close ties to the West; for more than a century, parts of the country struggled to free themselves from harsh Turkish domination. The history of Croatia goes back almost as far as man's first appearance on earth.

#### **Prehistory**

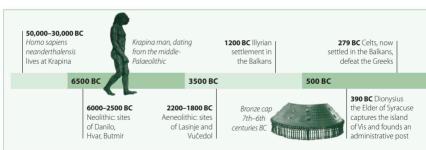
Early in the 19th century ancient human remains were found at Krapina in the north of Croatia. Dating from the Neanderthal period, "Krapina man" places human presence in Croatia in the middle-Palaeolithic. Other traces of prehistoric cultures have been found in Croatia. The richest site is probably Vučedol, near Vukovar, where the Neolithic "Vučedol Dove" (see p192) was found.

#### The Illyrians

Around 1200 BC, tribes of Indo-European origin settled on the Pannonian Plain, the larger islands and along the coast. The tribes had different names (Istrians, Liburnians, Dalmatians, Japods) depending on where they settled, but the area was known under one name, Illyria. They traded amber and had dealings with other Mediterranean people and northern European traders. Traces of ancient walls on some hilltops confirm their presence.

#### The Celts

In the 4th century BC, the Celts began to search for new lands when Gaul became overpopulated. Some tribes followed the River Danube to presentday Bohemia: some went as far as the Greek border. In the same period the Greeks founded fortified colonies on some Dalmatian islands, including Vis and Hvar and in the area of Troqir and Salona Greek historians claim the Celts fought against Alexander the Great in 335 BC on the southern banks of the Danube. A century later, they attacked Delphi and on their return stopped at the Paludes Volcae, an area between the rivers Sava, Drava and Danube. These people were called Scordisci and mixed with the Illvrians. The Celts and Illyrians were defeated by the Romans in the 2nd century BC. After a number of rebellions, some people were expelled, but those remaining adopted their conquerors' customs and became thoroughly Roman.



#### The Roman Conquest

The Romans conquered Croatia at different times and in different ways. First, they wanted to put an end to attacks on their mer-



Symbol of the Roman Empire, Sisak

chant ships, which were falling into the hands of the Liburnians or the Dalmatians, so they subdued the coastal towns by landing Roman legions transported by the fleet. The first battle took place in 229 BC, when Teuta, the

queen of the Illyrians, put to death a Roman ambassador who had tried to persuade her to put an end to the acts of piracy. Roman revenge was fierce and the towns of Epidaurum, Lissa and Pharos were attacked, conquered and forced to pay taxes to Rome. However, despite promises to the contrary, acts of piracy continued and Rome decided to deploy its legions based in Aquileia, east of Venice, a fortified town founded in 181 BC.

The legions succeeded in subduing Istria, a process completed by 177 BC. Twenty years later Publius Scipio Nasica inflicted the first defeat on the Dalmatians at Delminium and again on the Dalmatians and the Japods who inhabited the area of the delta of the River Neretva In 107 BC the Romans defeated the Scordisci and the Illyrians and conquered the town of Segestica (Sisak). In 87 BC another war broke out between the Romans and the Illvrians which lasted for three years and was won by the Romans. In 48 BC the Illyrians sided with Pompey in the fight against Caesar, providing ships and men. Pompey's defeat also at first appeared to be the decisive defeat of the Illyrians.

However, many Illyrians, still determined to fight, fled to inland forests not occupied by the Romans. A few decades later, in 6 AD, the Illyrian people staged their greatest united rebellion yet, under the command of Batone. The first battles were won by the Illyrians, who soon began to march towards Italy. After three further years of war, the Romans managed to get the better of Batone's exhausted, famished army, thanks to better military organization.

Over the years that followed, Caesar Augustus made the Balkans part of the Roman Empire. After a military campaign waged by Tiberius and completed in AD 12, the Illyrian defences were dismantled and cities were founded, linked by roads wide enough for marching armies. The inhabitants became Roman citizens and were allowed to stand for public office. Indeed, Illyria produced several emperors, including Septimius Severus, Aurelian, Claudius II, Probus, Valens, Valentinian and, perhaps most famous of all. Diocletian.

#### **Roman Roads**

The roads were the first great public works built by the Romans. They allowed them to move legions quickly and in fact the Roman



The Tabula Peutingeriana showing Roman roads

229 BC The Roman army destroys Illyrian forts, subdues the Greek colonies of Lissa and Pharos and forces Illyrians to pay taxes

**107 BC** Decisive Roman victory over the Scordisci who are driven from the region; Rome owes the victory to Quintus Minucius Rufus

300 BC

200 BC

100 BC

177 BC The Roman fleet is attacked by Istrians; Rome sends an army which defeats them and drives them out One of the many Roman fragments from the city of Sisak



road network remained the principal means of communication in this part of the Balkans for many centuries.

Two important arteries led from Aquileia: one towards the Istrian peninsula to Pula, the other in the direction of Aemona (Ljubljana). The main communication link in Dalmatia began in Aenona (Nin), went on to Zadar and continued, connecting Scardona (Skradin), Tragurium (Trogir), Salona, Narona, Epidaurum (Cavtat) and finally Catarum (Kotor). Other roads branched off inland from this coastal road: the busiest was that from Salona, which went towards present-day Bosnia, through Klis and Sinj, near the town of Aequum (Čitluk). Another road followed the river Narenta (Neretva) to Sirmium, the present-day Sremska Mitrovica, which would

become one of the capitals of the Roman Empire.

The inland roads were no less important: these followed the rivers Sava, Drava and the Danube. In the centre of Pannonia, one town which grew in importance was Siscia (Sisak), from which roads led towards Andautonia (Šćitarjevo), Mursa (Osijek), Cucc

(Šćitarjevo), Mursa (Osijek), Cuccium (Ilok), Marsonia (Vinkovci) and the thermal spas of Aquae Salissae (Daruvar), Aquae Valissae (Lipik) and Aquae Iasae (Varaždinske Toplice), which were used by the emperors.

#### **Founding of Towns**

The Romans initially founded the Istrian towns of Poreč, Rovinj and Pula, which became a place of great importance in the 2nd century. Later the existing Illyrian towns



Pula in Roman times, in an engraving from 1819

on the main islands and along the coast were turned into Roman towns. The main towns were Senia (Senj), Aenona (Nin), Jadera (Zadar), Delminium (now a village east of Salona with few remains), Promona (a village near Makarska, with parts of the Roman

walls), Burnum (the remains of the ancient town are near Kistanje along the road between Knin and Benkovac), Blandona (which no longer exists, near the lake of Vrana), Scardona (today Skradin), Narona (at the mouth of the Neretva near Vid), Tragurium (Trogir) and, lastly, Salona (near Split). The towns

had walls, forums, triumphal arches and aqueducts, the remains of which can often still be seen. The best-preserved aqueduct, built to serve Salona, was extended by Diocletian as far as Split and is, for the most part, still in use.

The principal Roman monuments remaining today in Croatia are in Pula, with its magnificent Roman amphitheatre (see pp64–5), and in Split, site of the extraordinary Palace of Diocletian (see pp122–3).

AD 6-9 Augustus conquers all of Pannonia and begins construction of forts along the rivers; later the region becomes part of the Roman Empire with the name Provincia Pannoniae

AD 12 Final defeat of the Illyrians. In Rome Tiberius celebrates his triumph with a solemn procession, at the front of which is Batone, chief of the rebels, now a prisoner



A statue of Emperor Augustus

Relief in the Baths in

Varaždinske Toplice

271 Aurelian defines the border of the Empire as the Danube, unable to defeat the Dacians who live along the river

#### 200

284 Diocletian becomes emperor; some years later work begins on the palace in Split, to which he retires in 304



The ancient Roman ruins of the city of Salona, destroyed in 614

#### The Barbarian Invasions and the Crisis of the Roman Empire

In 378, after a century of relative peace. the Goths invaded Pannonia and then turned towards Italy. From that time, and for the entire 5th century, the Balkans were attacked by the Huns, Vandals, Visigoths and Longobards, which finally caused the fall of the Roman empire in 476.

#### The Avars and Slavs in the Balkans

The beginning of the 6th century saw invasion by the Avars, who were followed by other Slavic tribes. Those Roman inhabitants who did not manage to flee to the mountains or the islands were captured and sold as slaves. In 582 the Avars conquered and destroyed Sirmium (Sremska Mitrovica), one of the ancient capitals of the Roman Empire. Later they also subdued other nomadic tribes and organized a powerful army to conquer

Constantinople, but they were defeated by the Byzantines. Some of the troops returned to the Asiatic steppes, while others settled between the Danube and Tisza rivers, leaving the field clear for the Slavs who occupied Moravia and Bohemia to push southwards and towards the Adriatic, conquering all the Roman cities and destroying Salona (614). The Slavs settled in the countryside or in what remained of the sacked cities. These people cultivated the land and bred livestock and formed extended family groups (županija) with a župan at the head of each.

#### The Bulgars and the **Byzantine Reconquest**

The Slavs' expansion to the south was halted by the Bulgars, a people of Turkish origin, who settled along the final stretch of the Danube. After the fall of the Western Empire, Byzantium attempted to reconquer the



380 With the Edict of Thessalonica, Theodosius the Great divides the Roman Empire in four parts

476 The Ostrogoths of Odoacer depose Romulus Augustulus, the last Roman emperor

400

378 Ostrogoths conquer and destroy Mursa (Osijek)

437 Dalmatia comes under the rule of Constantinople; the Huns invade and conquer Pannonia

500 The Slavs occupy Pannonia, which would become Slavonia

Balkans and inflicted various defeats on the Slavs, while at the same time trying to make them part of the empire. The Byzantine fleet was able to move the army rapidly and in this way Greece, part of Macedonia and the Dalmatian islands and cities were retaken. Inland areas remained in Slav possession.

#### The Croats

At the beginning of the 7th century perhaps summoned by the Byzantine emperor Heraclius, the Croats, a Slavic people possibly from what is now Iran, settled in upper Pannonia and Dalmatia, mixing with the native Roman people or refugees from the interior. In the 8th and 9th centuries. the Croats set up territorial bases in the inland regions, while the coastal cities and the islands were governed by Byzantine officials with a fleet based in Zadar. In the 9th century, the Croats established a fledgling state in a hilly area now called Biskupija on the Dalmatian plateau, far from the Byzantine-controlled coast and away from central Croatia, subject to the Franks, Several churches were built here and the small settlement was named Pet Crikvah Recent archaeological digs have unearthed the

foundations of religious buildings. The finds are now in Split and Knin.

#### The Franks

Towards the end of the 8th century the Franks, led by Charlemagne, succeeded in conquering what is now northern Croatia, Bohemia, Istria, Slovenia and part of



Foundations of one of the churches in Biskupija

Dalmatia. The area was divided into counties which were entrusted to loyal nobles or bishops. The Aquileian patriarch assumed particular importance for these lands when, in the 9th century, he sent monks and priests from Byzantium to spread the gospel and convert the Croats to Christianity. Among the priests were Cyril and Methodius, who devised the Glagolitic script to spread the word in a language intelligible to the Slavs.

#### The First Croatian Towns

During the 8th and early 9th centuries, the first Croatian towns were built next to the Byzantine-governed towns. Many (Dubrovnik, Zadar, Split and Trogir) were inhabited by people of mainly Roman

origin. Biograd was founded near Zadar, and the town of Knin was repopulated by Croats under Prince Višeslav. Later, the city of Šibenik was founded. In Pannonia, the Roman town of Siscia (now Sisak) and the town of Mursa (Osijek) were revived by Prince Vojnomir.



The baptismal font of Prince Višeslav, found near Nin

**614** The Slavs and Avars conquer and destroy Salona; the Roman population seeks refuge in Split and the nearby islands

From 820 Croats found the cities of Biograd, Šibenik and Knin; Sinj and Osijek revive

600

Early 7th century The Croats settle in upper Pannonia and Dalmatia ---

799 Charlemagne defeats and subdues Croats in Laurana (Lovran); beginning of Croats' conversion to Christianity. Their cultural centre is in Aenona (Nin); first writing in Croat appears



Bust of Charlemagne (742–814)

#### The Hungarians

The situation in the Balkans seemed stable enough towards the end of the 9th century. However Hungarians from the Urals came to Europe and, under the leadership of King Arpad. settled along the middle stretches of the Danube and in the valleys of Transylvania, forcing out the Slavs and other tribes. They carried out military raids in Italy and Austria but were defeated in 955 by Emperor Otto Lat Lechfeld in Augsburg, Bayaria. and were forced to retreat to what are today the borders of Hungary and Transvivania. This Hungarian invasion was the last great invasion of the first millennium

# The Kingdom of the Croats

In the meantime, in 845, under Prince Trpimir, the Croats obtained a tacit autonomy from the Franks and formed a state which also controlled part of Dalmatia. This was recognized by the pope while



Relief of King Zvonimir in the baptistry of St John in Split

Duke Branimir (879-92) was its leader Prince Tomislav was allegedly crowned king in 925 and his death, in 928. was followed by vears of anarchy until King Petar Krešimir IV (1058-74) came to power and united Croatia.

Krešimir also conquered the islands of Dalmatia. In 1054 with the schism of the Roman and Byzantine churches, Croatia sided with Rome After the death of Petar Krešimir IV his successor Zvonimir, who had married the sister of the Hungarian king Ladislaus. was crowned king by Pope Statue of the alleged first Gregory VII and declared himself

Croat king Tomislay

nobles refused to participate in the war against the Turks and killed Zvonimir in 1089.

subject to Rome. The Croat

#### The Union with Hungary

Claiming the right of succession, Koloman (1102–1116), the Hungarian king, came to power after Ladislaus. He conquered Croatia and was crowned king of Dalmatia and Croatia. In 1102 an agreement united the two states under one dynasty. A Croatian parliament (Sabor) was set up, to be ruled by a royally appointed Ban (governor), and the state was divided into counties governed by Croatian and Hungarian nobles. In the following century. to deal with the Tartar raids. King Bela IV reorganized the state into two parts (Croatia and Slavonia), each ruled by a Ban. New cities were founded and some were granted the privileges of a free city.

#### The Royal Free Cities

These cities, defended by walls, moats and towers, were built mainly in Pannonia and the northern counties. Varaždin, founded at this time, became one of the area's busiest trading centres and, for a long period, the

896 Hungarians settle between the Tisza and the Danube

901 Prince Tomislay defeats the Hungarians and forces them beyond the Sava. He obtains from Byzantium the authority to administer the cities of Dalmatia

956 Branimir, prince of Croatia, rebels against the Byzantines. He obtains the title of king of Croatia with the pope's blessing

899 Hungarians enter the Balkans and destroy the cities of the Croats, who seek refuge in Dalmatia

900

930 The Byzantines renew the union with the coastal towns and cities that pay taxes to the emperor

925 Tomislav allegedly becomes king of the Croats with the pope's blessing

1000 Venice's first armed naval expedition against pirates near mouth of Neretva river; towns on islands and coast of Istria and Dalmatia declare allegiance to Venice



The Golden Bull of 1242 declaring Zagreb (Gradec) a Free Roval City

seat of the Sabor. The cities which emerged from the ruins of old Roman towns were fortified: for example Križevci, proclaimed a royal city in 1252; Koprivnica, declared a free town in 1356; and Ludbreg, which became a free town in 1320 and played an important role in the region's defences. The lower stretch of the Drava was strengthened, with a rebuilt Sisak and, further south, a new Slavonski Brod. Zagreb became a free royal city in 1242; Vukovar became a free town in 1231. Thanks to tax advantages and non-subjection to feudal lords, these towns prospered and attracted foreign merchants and artisans.

#### The Defences

King Bela IV built forts in strategic positions which were directly dependent on royal power or granted to the great feudal lords. Impressive ruins remain of these forts, including the famous one of Ružica near Orahovica in Slavonia. Samobor, in central Croatia, was enlarged and given a fort, as were Klis, Knin and Sinj in Dalmatia. Several noble families were also given the task of building and

manning forts, as was the case with the Bribir counts, who moved to Zrin (taking the name of Zrinski). This intense programme strengthened a state which was threatened on many sides: after the danger of the Tartars had passed, threat of a Turkish invasion loomed

#### Venice, Istria and Dalmatia

The Adriatic coast fared differently: its fate was linked to that of Venice. Much of Istria belonged to the Aguileian patriarchate. which held civil and ecclesiastical jurisdiction From the year 1000, many coastal towns had agreements of mutual assistance with Venice. which had a powerful fleet for defence against attacks by pirates. Venice needed the Istrian cities, which often had fortified ports. for mooring its merchant fleets, which plied the Croatian coast on their expeditions to the East. In the 13th century, some cities asked to come under Venetian rule for defence reasons, a process which in most cases took place peacefully. In Zadar, however, this was not the case and two warring factions

forced Venice to employ crusaders on their way to the Holy Land to subdue the city (1202). In 1204 Zadar surrendered, and a year later Venice also conquered Istria and the city



The taking of Zadar by the Venetians depicted by Andrea Vicentino

1058 King Krešimir enlarges his kingdom by uniting Croatia and conquering the Dalmatian islands

1102 The Hungarian king Koloman, successor to Ladislaus, is crowned king of Croatia and Dalmatia Roof

Royal coin of Slavonia from 1200

**1202** To repay the debt to Venice the crusaders undertake to conquer Zadar which falls after long resistance

1050

1100

1150

1200

**1091** Ladislaus, king of Hungary, brother of Zvonimir's widow, unites Croatia and the Hungarian kingdom

**1075** Zvonimir is crowned king of Croatia by Pope Gregory VII

1222 With the Golden Bull the king of Hungary, Andrew II, guarantees the rights of the Croatian nobility, surrendering some of his power to the aristocracy



The Republic of Ragusa in a contemporary illustration

#### The Republic of Ragusa

The story of the city of Dubrovnik, for a long time known as Ragusa, takes up an entire chapter in Croatia's history. The city was founded by exiles from Epidaurum. which had been destroyed by the Avars. It became an important trading port, thanks to its central position in the Adriatic and its safe mooring. In 1205, it came under Venetian rule. This lasted for 150 years and resulted in the city's current appearance. In 1358. Hungary's Louis I of Aniou defeated the Venetians and reunited the Croatian territories, but in 1382 Ragusa bought its freedom by means of a treaty with the king of Hungary. It became an independent republic and flourished as a great power and a thriving spiritual and cultural centre. In 1808, Napoleon Bonaparte's troops entered the city and the republic came to an end

#### **Turkish Domination**

The Kingdom of Hungary went through a long period of dynastic crisis when the house of Arpad died out after the death of Andrew III in 1301. There were numerous contenders for the crown, provoking fierce battles until 1308 when Charles Robert of

Aniou, of the Neapolitan royal family, came to the throne. Under the Angevin dynasty. with Matthias Corvinus (1458–90), the Hungarian-Croatian kingdom enjoyed long periods of prosperity, competing with Venice for possession of the coast and Adriatic islands However a Turkish invasion was imminent and after the hattle of Kosovo Polie in 1389, the Turks conquered nearby Bosnia and part of Serbia In 1463, the Sultan Mohammed II began to invade Croatia from Bosnia. The Croatian army was defeated in 1493 at the battle of Krbavsko Polie. In the Battle of Mohács, on 29 August 1526, the Hungarian king, Louis II, died without heirs. leaving the way clear for the Turks of Suleyman II the Magnificent to conquer almost all of Croatia and much of Hungary.



Ottoman army in the Battle of Mohács

**1301–08** The Arpad dynasty dies out with the death of Andrew III. After lengthy controversy, Charles Robert of Anjou comes to the throne

Silver coin commemorating the Battle of Mohács

**1527** The kingdom of Hungary and Croatia passes to the Habsburgs

**1526** King Louis II dies in the Battle of Mohács against the Turks

1300

1350

1450

1500

**1409** After a costly war against Sigismund of Habsburg, Ladislaus of Anjou becomes king of Hungary and Croatia. He sells Dalmatia to Venice **1493** Croatian troops are defeated at Krbavsko Polje by Jacub, a Pasha of Bosnia

**1520** Marko Marulić writes *Judita*, the first work written in Croat

#### Venice and the Purchase of Dalmatia

The wars with Venice over coastal Dalmatia continued until 1409 when Ladislaus of Aniou, the King of Naples, renounced all rights over Dalmatia and sold it for 100 000. gold ducats to Venice. The towns and islands staved under Venetian rule from 1409 until 1797 when Venice surrendered to Napoleon. As well as the territories purchased by Venice other towns wanted to become Venetian possessions. They were given a great deal of autonomy by Venice, whose principal interest was in the security of the ports and their defence. building the ramparts which today characterize these towns. During the wars of the early 18th century, Venice conquered the whole of Dalmatia, except for Dubrovnik, then an independent republic, and a small stretch of coast. extending its borders to the Velebit passes. which still separate Croatia from Bosnia-Herzegovina today.

#### Ties with the Habsburgs

In 1527, Croatian and Hungarian nobles granted what remained of the kingdom to Archduke Ferdinand of Habsburg, who then concentrated all power in the court, depriving the Fran Krsto Frankopan. nobility of control of the cities beheaded in 1671 and border areas. In 1578, he established the Military Frontier (Voina Krajina) which was administered by the military governor of Vienna. This was to serve as a buffer zone against the advancing Turks. To populate this frontier,



Osijek at the time of liberation from the Turks in 1687

Serb, Morlach and Bosnian refugees were brought in and integrated with the military garrisons. For some decades there was a truce, then the Turkish offensive against Vienna resumed, but the Turks were pushed back, first in 1664 and again in 1683. The slow retreat of the

"infidels" from Croatia began at this point. Croatia was liberated ten years later, while Bosnia remained under the Turks. The liberated areas became border lands and remained so until 1881. Vienna's heavy taxation and centralized rule caused discontent, but in 1670 a plan to detach Croatia from Hungary and Vienna, devised by some of Croatia's most influential families

(including the Frankopans and Zrinskis) (see p181), resulted in the beheading of Ban Petar Zrinski and Fran Krsto Frankopan and the other two rebel leaders in 1671, halting any attempt at revolt.

**1566** Suleyman II besieges Siget, which, led by Nikola Zrinski, resists for five weeks

1600

**1573** Peasant revolt in Zagorje, against nobles and emperor, put down with much bloodshed

**1670** Attempted revolt by the Croatian princes Petar Zrinski and Krsto Frankopan against Leopold of Austria

| 1718 Treaty of | Passarowitz (Požarevac): | Turkey loses Serbia and | part of inland Dalmatia

1550

Nikola Zrinski, Ban of Croatia **1592** The Turks capture Bihać and extend

the borders to the river Kupa, which still

separates Bosnia from Croatia

1650

1/00

1750

1688 Pope Innocent XI promotes Holy League against Turks; the battle of Petervaradino brings Turkish defeat and liberation of all of Croatia

**1683** Siege of Vienna by the Turks; Austria wins and reconquers Buda and Pannonia



Drawing showing the Congress of Vienna

#### The Kingdom of the Illyrian Provinces

The Napoleonic wars also affected Croatia. where the Kingdom of Illvrian Provinces was established in 1809, governed by the French marshal, Marmont, This relatively short period (five years) saw the introduction of important economic and legal reforms that left a deep impression on Croatian culture. With the mood of growing nationalism in Europe, people felt inspired to rebuild a united state. However, at the Congress of Vienna (1815), Croatia supported the expansionist aspirations of Austria, which annexed all the Istrian and Dalmatian territories which had belonged to Venice, and the Republic of Dubrovnik.

#### The Illyrian Movement

Croatian aspirations were apparent in movements which also influenced and politicized the newly emerging working class, a product of early industrialization. The origins of this nationalist trend can be dated to the 1834 writings of Ljudevit Gaj (1809-72), known as

"the Illyrian". Moving against this trend. however, was the expansion of Hungary. which tried to extend its influence in frontier. zones by imposing the use of the Magyar language in administrative affairs and schools. In the former Venetian territories. on the other hand, pro-Italian nationalism. with ideas of unification, was spreading among the middle classes in the Dalmatian and Istrian cities. The Austrian government opposed all these movements and continued to govern without compromise. Indeed, they tried to introduce the teaching of German in schools. Any possible unification of Croatian territories was blocked by maintaining the Kraiina, the military border, and by customs barriers between the various areas. Major public works, the expansion of the ports of Rijeka and Pula. which became a base for the Austrian fleet. and a renewed road network were all made to promote Austrian interests.

#### From the Revolt of 1848 to Austro-Hungarian Reign

After 1847, when the Sabor (parliament) of Zagreb managed to proclaim Croatian as the official language and abolished feudalism, the revolt of the Hungarian people and the hopes aroused by the Italian revolution in 1848 also involved Croatian political movements. The failure to understand the Hungarian rebels and ambiguous Austrian policy forced the Ban, Josip

Ban Josip Jelačić, a Croatian national hero

1809 Napoleon Bonaparte founds kingdom of Illyrian Provinces



Napoleon Bonaparte

1820

1832 Janko Drašković publishes Dissertation against Hungarian and Austrian supremacy, introduces idea of Illyria as the "mother" of Croats

1830 Ljudevit Gaj publishes Essential Rules of Croatian-Slavic Spelling, introducing to the script the signs missing from the Latin alphabet



Ljudevit Gaj, head of the Croatian national revival

1840 1847 The Illyrian Movement gains majority in Croatian Parliament and proclaims Croat the

official language

1848-50 Hungarian uprising against Austria: Vienna abolishes local autonomy, dissolves Sabor and makes German the official language

1815 Treaty of Vienna: Austria is allotted all the territories of the Republic of Venice

1810

Jelačić, into war against Hungary, now ruled by rebels. The Austrian monarchy was saved but then became, if anything, even more keen on centralization. In 1867, Franz losenh the Austrian emperor modified the structure of the state and established the Austro-Hungarian empire. Hungary was granted autonomy and a corridor to the sea. Rijeka and the hinterland became part of the Magyar state. However, under pressure from the Sabor, in 1868 the Austrian emperor granted Croatia the status of "a nation with territory within the Austro-Hungarian Empire", and Zagreb became its cultural and political centre. In 1863 the bishop of Đakovo, Josip Jurai Strossmayer, founded the Croatian Academy of the Arts and Sciences and the University (1874), the first in the Balkans

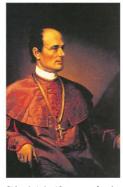
Political contention continued to develop along different lines. Some people dreamed of a confederation of states within the Habsburg monarchy, others felt that the moment had come to unite the Slav peoples in one state, and lastly, others felt it was time for Croatian independence.

Tension increased in 1878 when Bosnia and Herzegovina came under Austrian



Flag of the Hungarian-Croatian Imperial regiment

rule, sparking reaction from the Kinadom of Serbia, which had been established in 1882 after the expulsion of the Turks The Serbian ruling classes aspired to unify the southern Slavs and intended to extend their



Bishon Josin Jurai Strossmayer, founder of the University of Zagreh

territories towards Dalmatia and Slavonia which they regarded as Serbian land. In the last decade of the 19th century a political battle developed in Dalmatia and Istria. It formed between a movement supported by the bourgeoisie in the cities formerly under Venetian rule, which pushed for autonomy, and other groups which aimed at a union with Serbia. Austria, which as always took advantage of these internal controversies, did not concede anv form of autonomy.

#### World War I

In 1914, with the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Saraievo. World War I broke out, which caused the dissolution of the Habsburg Empire. Croatians paid dearly for their involvement in the war, as did many other countries, but finally the Croatian population was able to free itself from foreign rule.

1860 Austrian emperor reinstates the Sabor

1881 Vienna dissolves the Vojna Krajina and those areas are part of the Croatian state again

1890

1904 Antun and Stjepan Radić found the People's Peasant Party

1914 Assassination in Saraievo: World War I begins

1860

1880

1908 Austria annexes Bosnia and Herzegovina

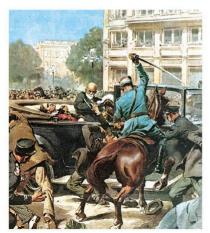
1900

1910

1868 Birth of United Kingdom of Croatia and Slovenia supported by Emperor Franz Joseph

Emperor Franz Joseph

1912 Slavko Cuvaj proclaimed Ban of Croatia, dissolves the Sabor and abolishes the Constitution



Assassination of King Alexander in Marseilles (1934)

#### From the State of Slovenes. Croats and Serbs to the Kingdom of Yugoslavia

Croatia proclaimed independence in 1918. but a few months later agreed to be part of a state formed by Slovenes and Serbs under the Serbian dynasty of Karadordević. The Treaty of Rapallo (1920) allotted Istria, Zadar, the islands of Cres, Lošini, Lastovo and Palagruža to Italy, followed in 1924 by Rijeka. The discontent of Croatians led many to join the People's Peasant Party, led by Stiepan Radić until he was shot and fatally wounded in parliament in Belgrade in 1928. The revolts which broke out in Croatia were repressed and in 1929 King Alexander abolished the constitution and then established the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. The assassination of the king in Marseilles (1934) by a member of a Macedonian revolutionary group working with the Ustaše (Croatian fascists), led by Ante Pavelić, increased tension, and

in an attempt to suppress the uprising and placate the discontented, in 1939 the government of Belgrade established the Banovina of Croatia within the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. However, a few days later World War II began.

#### World War II

Initially, Yugoslavia supported the Axis. but a military revolt removed the king. of Yugoslavia, and the country was then invaded by Nazi troops. A kingdom of Croatia was established, which was to be governed by Aimone of Savoy, but in reality it was an independent state led by Pavelić Italy took control of the islands and cities of the Dalmatian coast. Resistance gained ground in all of Yugoslavia led by the Communist Party and its chief, Marshal Tito: from 1941 to 1945 Croatia was bloodied by war and internal conflicts that caused hundreds of thousands of deaths

#### Marshal Tito

At the end of the war the state of Yugoslavia was reunited, and regained land granted to Italy after World War I (see p51), as well

as the area of Prekomurje and a part of Barania, which were both Hungarian at the time.

In 1948, the break between the Yugoslav Communist Party and the



Tito with his wife and son in a photo from 1927

1960

1970

1919 Treaty of Paris: a country of Slovenes, Croats and Serbs is created, which later becomes the kingdom of Yugoslavia

1934 King Alexander is killed in Marseilles: his cousin Paul takes power

1940

1948 Yugoslavia breaks away from Soviet influence

1929 King Alexander Karađorđević proclaims a dictatorship. Croat Ante Pavelić founds terrorist organization of Ustaše to fight the Serbs

1939-41 World War II: Yugoslavia is conquered and divided, and Croatia nominally becomes a kingdom under Aimone of Savoy and begins policy of non-alignment

1950

1947-48 Exodus of nearly all the Italians from Istria and Dalmatia

1945 The Yugoslav Federal state is founded

Soviet Union led Marshal Tito to employ a policy of mediation and neutrality between the opposing international factions of the Cold War. Tito held together the country's various ethnic groups (with great difficulty) and these ties showed signs of strain after he died in 1980. The reform of the constitution, aimed at weakening Serbia's dominance over the other states, did not alter the resentment of the Croats and Slovenes who sought support for opposition to the regime in religion and nationalism.

# The Dissolution of the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia

The fall of the Berlin Wall (November 1989) and the break-up of the Soviet Union at the end of 1991 convinced the governments of Slovenia, Croatia (under its first president, Franjo Tuđman) and Macedonia that they should dissolve federal ties and proclaim independence, after a referendum which was won by a wide margin by the secessionists (May 1991). However, a Serb faction, supported by the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) from Belgrade, stirred up rebellion and war broke out. In Slovenia the war lasted only ten days, but the battle in Croatia was prolonged.

Under the pretext of defending the Serbs, parts of Slavonia and Baranja were occupied by the JNA, and in Krajina the Serbian Republic of Krajina was created with Knin as its capital. A fifth of Croatia fell to Serb soldiers, and the city of Dubrovnik was held under a sevenmenth siege.



Bombed houses in Vukovar during the war of 1991–95

# The Independent State of Croatia

Five years later the land occupied by the Serbs was liberated by the Croatian army and the Erdut Agreement (1995) sanctioned reunification, although the disputed territories (Slavonia and Krajina) were overseen by the UN until 1998.

Croatia joined the World Trade
Organization and elections held in
December 2000 voted in a coalition
of democratic parties. As a result steps
were taken for Croatia's entry into the
European Union. In March 2002, the
Italian bank, UniCredito, bought the
important Croatian bank, the Zagrebačka
Bank, bringing it into the European circuit.
However, in 2005, after failing to hand

over an indicted general, Croatia was accused of not co-operating fully with the international war crimes tribunal at the Hague and negotiations for entry to the EU stalled. Soon after, the general was captured and talks resumed, and eventually, Croatia joined the European Union on 1 July 2013.



Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, elected president in 2015

1980 President Tito dies and conflict between the various nationalities begins

1998 The restitution of Slavonia and Krajina reunites a now free Croatia **2000** On 7 February Stipe Mesić is elected President of the Republic **2009** The accession of Croatia to NATO

**2013** Croatia joins EU on 1 July

1980

1990

2000

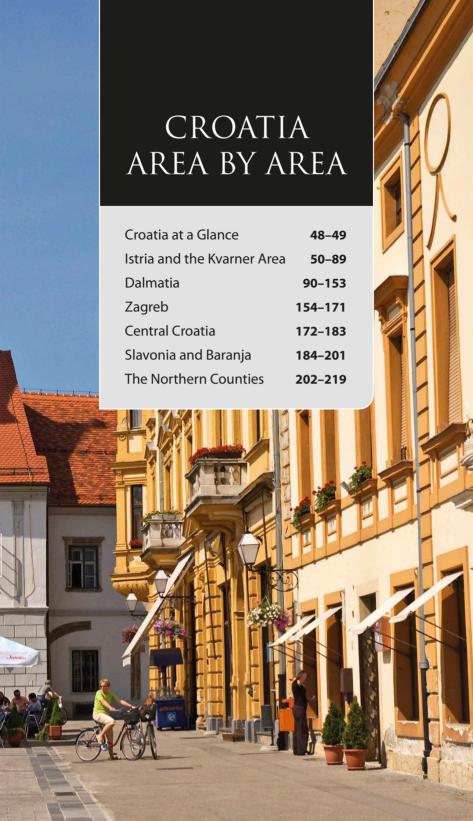
2010

2020

1991 Slovenia and Croatia abandon Republic, Croatian land inhabited by Serbs is occupied by Yugoslav People's Army: war between Serbia and Croatia begins 1995 Erdut Agreement: Slavonia and Krajina are administered by the United Nations **2015** Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović is elected Croatia's first woman president

2010 Ivo Josipović elected President





# Croatia at a Glance

Croatia is a fascinating country with great ethnic, historical and architectural diversity as well as varied topography. The north had close ties with the former Austrian empire. and the bell towers alongside 19th-century Baroque churches and buildings have a Viennese look. The eastern side marks the start of the Hungarian plain with broad rivers and houses with overhanging roofs. The Adriatic coast is quite different, with its indented coastline fringed with lovely islands. The coastal cities reflect the centuriesold Venetian culture with churches, monasteries, palaces and forts testifying to the brilliance of the late Middle Ages and the greatness of the Renaissance period.



#### St Mark's Square (pp160-61), with its Gothic church of the same name, is the heart of the Gornii Grad district in Zagreb and the city's oldest square.

Zagreb o 7AGREB (see pp.154-71)

Karlovac

Ogulin



Euphrasian Basilica in Poreč (pp56-7) has marvellous mosaics, some of the bestpreserved examples of Byzantine art in Croatia.





Plitvice Lakes National Park (pp88-9) is one of nature's natural wonders with 16 lakes surrounded by woods. The cascading waterfalls create an impressive display of light and colour.

(pp64-5)



Lički Osik

#### over 150 islands with underwater caves and sheltered coves. The park covers an area of about 300 sq km (115 sq miles)

and is surrounded by clear seas. These wooded, rocky islands present an unforgettable sight.





Zagorie, west of Varaždin, towards the horder with Slovenia, is a fascinating area with vine-covered hills thermal spa towns and castles

Osijek ...

Đakovo



Kopački Rit Park

(nn198-9) is an oasis of great ornithological interest. In spring and summer the Danube overflows. transforming this area into a large lake attracting more than 200 bird species.

0 kilometres THE NORTHERN 0 miles COUNTIES (see pp202-19) Virovitica CENTRAL

CROATIA (see pp172-83)

Sisak

Varaždin

SLAVONIA AND BARANJA (see pp184-201)

Slavonski Brod

Lonjsko Polje Nature Park (n180)

The Tvrđa in Osijek (pp196-7), the fortified nucleus of the city, has 18th-century military buildings. Initially Roman, then Hungarian, Turkish and lastly Austrian, the city retains traces of most of these diverse cultures.

The Palace of Diocletian in Split (pp122-3) was built by Emperor Diocletian at the end of the 3rd century. The city of Split grew up in and around it. Almost in its original state, it is the largest Roman building in the Adriatic.



Dubrovnik





# ISTRIA AND THE Kvarner area

The Istrian peninsula, nestling at the northern end of the Adriatic Sea, and the islands that tumble down the Kvarner gulf are some of the most sought-after holiday destinations in Europe. The coast is spectacular and the towns and cities are fascinating. Three National Parks – the Brijuni Islands, the Plitvice Lakes and Risniak – preserve the natural charm of the area.

Until 1000 BC, the region was inhabited by Illyrians. From 42 BC Istria became part of the Roman empire, when the Province of Dalmatia was founded. Cities were built along the coast and on the islands, and many traces of Roman presence remain. Pula has a well-preserved amphitheatre dating back to the 1st century, the sixthlargest arena of its kind in the world.

With the fall of the western Roman Empire, much of the eastern Adriatic coast came under the control of Byzantium. The intricate, well-preserved golden mosaics of the 6th-century basilica of St Euphrasius in Poreč survive from that time.

In 1420 the area came under Venetian rule, a situation which was to last until 1797, when Napoleon dissolved the Venetian Republic. Nearly 400 years of Venetian rule are recorded by 15th-century open-air loggias, elegant bell towers and buildings with Venetian-Gothic windows, built by wealthy merchants.

With the Treaty of Vienna in 1815, Austria-Hungary extended its domain to include Venetian lands. Rijeka developed into an industrial port under Austro-Hungarian rule and is still today a hub for Croatian shipping. Close by in Opatija the Habsburgs built elegant villas and planted lush gardens for their winter holidays.

In 1918 Istria briefly became part of the new kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, which subsequently became Yugoslavia in the same year.

Many Istrian towns have two official names, an Italian and a Croatian one, a legacy from 1920, when Istria was given to Italy as a reward for having joined the Allies in World War I. During World War II, the region became a stronghold for Italian partisans. After 1943, most of Istria was given back to Yuqoslavia.



The Roman amphitheatre at Pula, one of the best preserved Roman theatres in the world

# **Exploring Istria and the Kvarner Area**

Istria is a triangular peninsula, traditionally divided into three areas. White Istria is the mountainous northern part characterized by karst or limestone; grey Istria is the central plateau partially rich in vegetation and furrowed by the rivers Mirna and Raša; and red Istria is the coastal area that derives its name from a fertile red soil called *crvenica*. The most popular destinations in Istria are Poreč, Rovinj, Pula and the Brijuni National Park. The Kvarner area includes the city of Rijeka and the coastline as far as Jablanac. Woods cover the northern hinterland, with the Risnjak National Park to the north, and the Plitvice Lakes National Park to the southeast. The islands of Krk, Cres, Lošinj and Rab are delightful places to explore. Many of the towns on the coast have an Italianate appearance.



Cathedral of St Mary the Great on the island of Rab



Mali Lošini

Veli Lošini

Ilovik (

Zadar \

Susak 🌎

from Pula to Trieste, while trains link Rijeka and Zagreb, with connections to the south of Croatia.

For hotels and restaurants in this region see pp226–8 and pp238–40

link all the main towns and there's a bus that runs

summer season - these take cars also. Buses

#### Sights at a Glance

- Buie (Buie)
- 2 Umag (Umago)
- Novigrad (Cittanova)
- 4 Poreč (Parenzo) pp55–7
- Vrsar (Orsera)
- Rovini (Roviano)
- Bale (Valle)
- Vodnjan (Dignano)
- Fažana (Fasana)
- Brijuni National Park pp60-61
- Pula (Pola) pp62-5
- Barban
- Svetvinčenat
- Pazin
- ⊕ Gračišće
- Pićan
- **⋒** Labin

Kupa

∧ Bjelolasica

Gora

 Plomin Mošćenice

- **1** Lovran
- 2 Opatija
- Kastav
- **24** Rijeka pp72−3
- 7 Cres
- 2 Lošini (Lussino)
- 2 Risniak National Park pp76-7
- 🙉 Krk
- 29 Bakar
- 30 Kralievica (Porto Re)
- Orikvenica
- Novi Vinodolski
- Seni
- **3** Rab pp84-5
- 33 Plitvice Lakes National Park pp88-9

#### Tour

Karlovac

Vrbovsko

Karlovac

2 Tour of the Fortified Towns



# Kev

Motorway

 Major road Minor road

== Motorway under construction

Main railway

County border International border

Ferry route

△ Summit



Brinje 33 SENJ 0 kilometres 0 miles 30 PLITVICE LAKES Plitvice Lukovo NATIONAL PARK 35 \* × Bihać Mali Rajinad Korenica NISKA LICKO Lički Osik Udbina Gospić Donji Karlobag Lapac Gračac Zadar



Facade of the Church of St Servelus, Buie

# • Buie (Buie)

Map A2. 55 6.000. 70 Pula. 70 km (43) miles) S. . from Pula, Rijeka, Kopar, Trieste, Padova, Zagreb, Rovini, Poreč. 1 svibnja 2, (052) 773 353. Grape festival (3rd weekend Sep). W coloursofistria.com

On an isolated hill, among flourishing vineyards, stands Buie, the ancient Roman settlement of Bullea. Formerly a Frankish feudal village, in 1102 it became part of the Patriarchate of Aquileia and in 1412 the town came under Venetian rule.

The town still retains the outline of the ancient walled castle and has kept its original medieval lavout, with narrow allevs and lanes leading to the main square. The Cathedral of St Servelus (Sv. Servol) and its Aguileian bell tower stand here. The church was built in the 16th century over the remains of a Roman temple, of which a few columns and pieces survive.

Inside the church are wooden statues from the 14th and 15th centuries (Madonna with Child and St Barbara), sculptures representing St Servelus and St Sebastian (1737) by Giovanni Marchiori, and an organ by Gaetano Callido (1725-1813).

A 15th-century Venetian Gothic palace and a 16thcentury loggia with a frescoed facade also face the square.

Outside the walls is the Church of St Mary (Sv. Marija), erected in the 15th century: a wooden statue of the Virgin and a Pietà are from the same period. Some of the paintings

of biblical scenes are by Gasparo della Vecchia (early 18th century).

The Civic Museum houses some interesting handicrafts and pieces made by local craftsmen.

#### (III) Civic Museum

Trg. Josipa Broza Tita 6 Tel (052) 773 075. Open Jul & Aug: 9am-1pm. 5-9pm Mon-Sat: Sep-Jun: by appt.

#### **Environs**

Perched on a hillton 8 km (5 miles) southeast of Buie. is the medieval town of Grožnian (Grisignana).

The town was first documented in 1102 when it became the property of the patriarch of Aquileia. In 1358 the Venetians bought the town from Baron Reiffenberg and since that time it

has been the administrative and military centre of the surrounding area. A tower, some parts of the walls and two doors are all that remain of the Old Town

Within the walls are a 16th-century loggia, in the main square, and the Baroque Church of

St Vitus and St Modest. The church has splendid altars and an impressive marble choir.

After World War II, the majority of the inhabitants. nearly all of them Italian. abandoned the town. In 1965. however, it was declared a "City of Artists". Contemporary artists work and exhibit their art in the various local galleries and workshops

### 2 Umag (Umago)

Map A2. 5 13.000. 2 Pula. 83 km (51 miles) 👼 Joakima Rakovca bb (060) 317 060 Trgovačka 6 (052) 741 363. Reast of St Pilgrim (weekend nearest 23 May): International tennis tournament (end Jul): concerts in summer.

#### w coloursofistria.com

This town is located on a narrow peninsula which frames a small bay. It was founded by the Romans and given the name of Umacus In 1268 it became an important port when it passed into Venetian hands Later in the 14th century, a wall and towers

> were built, some of which still remain

The town still has many 15thand 16th-century stone houses. some with ornate Gothic windows On the left outer wall of the 18th-century

> Church of St Marv (Sv. Marija) is a relief of St Pilarim and the fortified

town of Umag, and inside the church is a 15th-century

Venetian-school polyptych. Today Umag is a busy seaside resort with numerous hotels. It has become known for its well-equipped sports centres. and major tennis tournaments are held here.



of St Mary, Umag



The ancient wall and port of Umag



Boats in the harbour at Poreč

#### Novigrad (Cittanova)

Map A2. 53 4.000. 7 Pula. 60 km (37 miles), Pazin, 41 km (25 miles). Mandrač 29a, (052) 757 075. GnamGnam Fest: Novigrad Scallop Evening (first Fri in Jun), Patron saint's day, St Pelagius (weekend nearest 28 Aug). w coloursofistria.com

Originally a Greek colony and later a Roman one called Aemonia, Novigrad stands at the mouth of the River Mirna. In the Byzantine period (6th century) when it was enlarged it was called "New Town" (Neopolis). From the early Middle Ages until 1831 it was an episcopal seat. In 1277 it passed into Venetian hands and oak from the Motovun forests was shipped to Venetian dockvards.

In the 13th century the town was walled for defence but it was unable to withstand a Turkish attack in 1687 and the town was partially destroyed along with many works of art.

Evidence of the Venetian period can be seen on the facades of the houses in the narrow lanes which lead to the main square (Veliki Trg). An 18th-century loggia stands here. Of the early Christian basilica of St Pelagius (Sv. Pelagij), rebuilt in the 16th century, only the Romanesque crypt from the 11th century remains. In the present-day Baroque church are paintings from the Venetian school of the 18th century. Evidence of the Roman and medieval periods can be seen in the museum housed in the Urizzi Palace.

# Poreč (Parenzo)

Map A2. 🔼 11,000. 🛣 Pula. 53 km (33 miles) Pazin 32 km (20 miles) 👼 Ulica K Hoguesa 2. (060) 333 111. Local: Zagrebačka 9, (052) 451 458: Regional: Pionirska 1, (052) 452 797. Season of classical music (at St Euphrasius) and jazz festival (both Jul & Aug). W to-porec.com

Poreč was a Roman town (Colonia Julia Parentium) which after centuries of splendour, was sacked by the Goths and fell into decline. In 539 it was conquered by the Byzantines.

who founded a bishopric around the year 800 The town then became part of the kinadom of the Franks, who gave it to the Patriarchate of Aguileia. In 1267 it was the first Istrian town to choose Venetian rule, and the town acquired a Venetian look as palaces, squares and

In 1354 it was destroyed by the Genoese and later, plague, pirates and a long war greatly reduced the population. During Austrian domination it became the seat of the Istrian parliament and an important shipvard.

religious buildings were built.

The old centre shelters on a narrow peninsula protected by rocks and the island of St Nicholas. Despite being a popular base for visitors to Istria, the Old Town has remained intact and Poreč invariably wins an annual award for "best-kept town". The layout is based on the original Roman network, with a main road

(Decumanus) and another main road at right angles (Cardo) The main monuments of the town line these roads

Along the Decumanus stand many Gothic houses At the easternmost point is the Baroque Sinčić Palace (18th century), which houses the Poreč Museum (Zavičaini Muzei Poreštine). It is dedicated to Roman and early Christian archaeology: an ethnographic section illustrates daily life in the Poreč region. Nearby in St Maurus Street (Sv. Mauro) is the House of Two Saints. all that is left of the abbev of St Cassius (12th century). with two Romanesque figures on the facade. To the west, the Decumanus leads to Trg Marafor, once the site of the forum with houses from the 12th and 13th centuries and the remains of a pre-Roman temple.

North of the square is the church of St Francis

(Sv. Frane, 12th-14th centuries) altered in the Baroque period. To the east is the parish house with an ornate Romanesque façade. From here there is a passage that leads to the 6th-century Funhrasian Basilica which has marvellous Archaeological exhibit Byzantine mosaics (see pp56-7).



in the Poreč Museum

#### IIII Poreč Museum

Sinčić Palace, Dekumanska 9. Tel (052) 431 585. Closed for restoration.



A typical trefoil window in Venetian Gothic style, Poreč

# Poreč: Euphrasian Basilica

Eufraziieva bazilika

This 6th-century church, a Byzantine masterpiece, is decorated with splendid mosaics on a gold background. The Funhrasian Basilica was built for Bishon Funhrasius between 539 and 553, by enlarging the existing 4th-century Oratory of St Maurus Martyr, Some of the original floor mosaics still survive. Over the centuries the building has undergone numerous alterations. In December 1997 the basilica was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List. Classical concerts are held in the church in July and August.



#### ★ Ciborium

Dominating the presbytery is a beautiful 13th-century ciborium. supported by four marble columns. The canopy is decorated with mosaics



#### ★ Apse Mosaics

Mosaics from the 6th century cover the apse. On the triumphal arch are Christ and the Apostles (above); on the vault, the

to the left St Maurus, Bishop Euphrasius with a model of the basilica, and Deacon Claud with his son

Virgin enthroned with Child and two Angels,



(1) Remains of a 4th-century mosaic floor from the Oratory of St Maurus are in the garden.

The Bishop's Residence, a triple-aisled building dating from the 6th century, now houses several paintings by Antonio da Bassano, a polyptych by Antonio Vivarini and a painting by Palma il Giovane.

#### Sacristy and the **Votive Chapel**

Past the sacristy's left wall is a triple-apsed chapel with a mosaic floor from the 6th century. Here lie the remains of the saints Maurus and Eleuterius.



#### Interior

The entrance leads to a large basilica with a central nave and two side aisles. The 18 Greek marble columns have carved capitals featuring animals, some of Byzantine origin and others Romanesque. All bear the monogram of Euphrasius.

#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Eufrazijeva ulica 22. Tel (052) 429 030. Open call ahead for opening times.

# Baptistry This octagonal building dates from the 6th century. In the centre is a baptismal font and there are also fragments of mosaics; to the rear rises a 16th-century bell tower.

# the and ts of ses a wer.







Church of St Anthony in Vrsar, built in the 17th century

# Vrsar (Orsera)

Map A3. 🔼 2,200. 🛣 Pula, 41 km (25 miles). Pazin, 42 km (26 miles). Rade Končara 46, (052) 441 187. International sculpture school, Montraker quarry (early Sep); classical music concerts (summer)

#### w infovrsar.com

The remains of a villa, a quarry and the foundations of an early Christian building all provide evidence that Romans once settled here. In documents preceding 1000 AD, this village is mentioned as the feudal territory of the bishop of Poreč who owned a fortified summer residence here Until 1778 it remained under the protection of the bishop and then came under Venetian rule.

The town had an outer wall and towers which have now almost disappeared except for the West and East Town Gate and some fragments of the walls. On the harbour is the Church of St Mary (Sv. Marija) from the 10th century, one of the most important Romanesque monuments in Istria Guitar concerts are held here in the summer months.

The town is dominated by the 18th-century Vergottini Castle, built by restructuring the bishop's former residence. Near the Romanesque gate in the medieval wall is the small church of St Anthony, built in the 17th century with an open portico.

#### **Environs**

Just outside Vrsar lies Koversada, Europe's largest naturist resort.

To the south of Vrsar, towards Rovinj, is the Limski Channel,

now a marine reserve The channel is 9 km (5 miles) long and 600 m (1 970 ft) wide with steep sides perforated by limestone caves which have been lived in from time to time since the Neolithic Age. In the early 11th century, one of the caves was the home of the hermit St Romualdo, who founded the monastery of St Michael near Kloštar

Many of the restaurants in the area offer the ovsters and mussels farmed in the channel



Fishermen on the Limski Channel

# Rovinj (Rovigno)

Map A3. 🔼 13,000. 🛣 Pula, 40 km (25 miles). 📮 Pula. 📟 Trg na lokvi, (060) 333 111. 7 Obala Pina Budicina 12. (052) 811 566. @ Grisia. International art exhibition (2nd Sun in Aug): Patron St Euphemia's day (16 Sep). w tzgrovinj.hr

Rovini was originally an island

port built by the Romans. In 1763. Rovini was joined to the coast by filling in the channel dividing the island from the mainland, creating a peninsula. Initially ruled by the Byzantines and the Franks, from 1283 until 1797 the town was under Venetian control. The remains of a wall dating back to the Middle Ages can still be seen.

In the square in front of the pier is Balbi's Arch (1680), an ancient city gate as well as a late-Renaissance clock tower. The Califfi Palace, dating from 1680. is now the Heritage Museum housing 18th-century art from the Venetian school and works by modern Croatian artists

In the roads branching off the square are Baroque and Renaissance buildings The backs of many of these face the sea. The cathedral. dedicated to St Euphemia (Sv. Fufemija), dominates the town. Origi-nating in early Christian times it was rebuilt in 1736. The saint's remains are preserved in a Roman sarcophagus in the apse on the right of the threeaisle church. The adjacent bell tower is 62 m (200 ft) high (the second-highest in Istria). and was modelled on that of San Marco in Venice. It is crowned by a copper statue of St Euphemia.

In the east of the city is the 13th-century Baptistry of the Holy Trinity (Sv. Troistvo).

Along the waterfront is the Centre for Maritime Research It was founded in the late 19th century and has an aquarium. Nearby, Red Island (Cryeni otok) is in fact two islands linked by an embankment

South of the town is Zlatni Rt. a forest park planted with cedars, pines and cypresses.

#### IIII Heritage Museum

Trg maršala Tita 11. Tel (052) 816 720. 830 650. Open summer: 10am-2pm. 6-10pm Tue-Fri, 10am-2pm, 7-10pm Sat & Sun; winter: 10am-1pm Tue-Sat.

w muzej-rovinj.com



Boats docked at the harbour in Rovinj



Church of St Flizabeth inside the walls of Bale

#### Bale (Valle)

Map A3. A 900. Pula. 10 km (17 miles). Pula, 25 km (15 miles). Tro palih boraca. 7 Roviniska 1. (052) 824 270. Might of Bale, Ralianska noć (first Sun in Aug); Castrum Vallis, art exhibition (Jul & Aug). w bale-valle.hr

On a hill of limestone, the Illyrians constructed a fort which dominated the surrounding countryside. The Romans also built a castrum (Castrum Vallis) on the same site, which was renovated when the place became a feudal estate of the Patriarchate of Aguileia. During Venetian rule, which began in 1332, the town grew in size and acquired its present layout of an elliptical wall with towers enclosing two parallel rows of houses. Interesting buildings include the Gothic-Venetian Magistrates' Court with coats of arms on the portico; the loggia; and the Gothic-Renaissance Castle dating from the 15th century, a residence for the Soardo Bembo family, Under one of the two side towers is a gate leading to the Old Town.

The Church of St Elizabeth (Pohođenje Blažene Djevice Marije), of Romanesque origins. was reconstructed in the 16th century and again in the 19th. The church contains a splendid Romanesque crucifix, a sarcophagus, a polyptych and a crypt with a marble Renaissance altar.

There are two other churches in Bale. One dates from the 14th century and is dedicated to St Anthony; the other, dedicated to the Holy Spirit, was built in the 15th century.

# Vodnian (Dignano)

Map A3. A 4.000. Pula. 11 km (7. miles). 🗐 Želieznička ulica, (052) 511 538. 7 Narodni trg 3, (052) 511 700. New Olive Oil Days (3rd weekend in Nov). w vodnjandignano.com

The town of Vodnjan stands on a hill among vinevards and olive groves. At one time it was an Illyrian fort and later, a Roman military post known as Vicus Atinianus, From 1331 until 1797. it was under Venetian rule.

The large People Square in the centre of the town is surrounded by notable buildings such as the Benussi House, the Bembo House, the City Hall, built in Neo-Gothic style, and the elegant Bradamante Palace.

The old part of town still has various buildings in Venetian-Gothic style, including the Bettica Palace and the 18th-century Church of St Blaise (Sv. Blaž). In the church are some splendid statues and about 20 paintings from the 14th to 19th centuries. as well as a Last Supper by G Contarini (1598) and an Encounter of Saints attributed to Palma il Vecchio. There is also a fine polyptych by Paolo Veneziano from 1351 (Portrait of the Blessed Leon Bembo) plus six mummies of saints, which have survived miraculously without being embalmed. The most revered is that of St Nicolosia.

#### † St Blaise

Župni trg. Tel (052) 511 420. Open by appt. Collection of Religious Art: Tel (052) 511 420. Open Jun-Sep: 9:30am-7pm Mon-Sat, noon-5pm Sun: Oct-May: by appt.

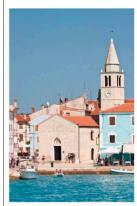
#### Pažana (Fasana)

Man A3 🐼 3 900 🛣 Pula 8 km ato the Brijuni Islands. 7 43 istarske divizije 8. (052) 383 727. w infofazana hr

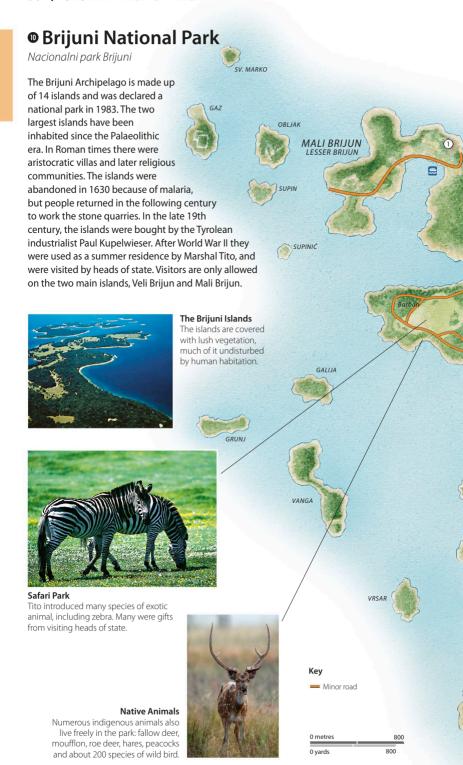
This small fishing town is known mainly as the embarkation point for the islands of the Briiuni National Park (see pp60– 61) Its ancient name Vasianum derives from the production of oil and wine amphorae during the Roman period. Facing the sea is the church of SS Cosmas and Damian (Sv. Kuzma i Damian), which was founded in the 11th century and has undergone various reconstructions Inside is a painting by Jurai Ventura of The Last Supper (1578) and in the sacristy are remains of frescoes by Italian artists from Friuli dating from the 15th-16th centuries

To the side of the church is a seven-storey bell tower with an octagonal spire. The Church of Our Lady of Carmel from the late 14th century has Gothic frescoes by unknown artists and a 17th-century loggia Nearby is the church of **St Fliseus** from the 6th century, with a stone doorway and blind-arch windows, which preserves its Byzantine appearance from the 8th-9th centuries.

Thanks to the growth in numbers of visitors heading for the Brijuni Islands, the town has grown and new facilities have been built



Façade of the Church of SS. Cosmas and Damian in Fažana





#### **Ancient Trees**

Peneda

Hundreds of different plant species from all over the world were planted on Brijun. Many of the trees, like this ancient olive, are now fully mature and are regarded as living monuments.

#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### **Practical Information**

**Map** A3.

Tel (052) 525 888.

Individuals and groups must book on an excursion, which includes the boat crossing. Bicycles can be hired.

**Open** always, but access limited to crossing times.

milled to crossing times.

maked to crossing times.

properties of the crossing times.

#### Transport

from Fažana.





#### KEY

- ① The fort of Mali Brijun is situated on the second-largest island in the archipelago. The Austro-Hungarian fort was built at the end of the 19th century.
- ② **The museum**, opened in 1955, contains cultural and archaeological finds from the island.
- 3 In the area around Brijuni harbour hotels and a golf course have been built.
- 4 The Tegetthoff Fortress is a ruined Austrian defence system which was built in the 19th century.
- (3) The White Villa (Bijela Vila) dates from the Venetian period. It was restored in 1721. This was Tito's summer residence and was used for receptions and political meetings.





For keys to symbols see back flap

# Pula (Pola)

Pula is well known for its magnificent monuments from the Roman era, when it was a colony known as Pietas Julia. It became an episcopal seat in 425 and still has the foundations of some 5th-century religious buildings. It was destroyed by the Ostrogoths, but flourished again when it became the main base for the Byzantine fleet in the 6th and 7th centuries: the cathedral and chanel of St Mary of Formosa date from this time. In 1150 it came under Venetian rule, but by the mid-17th century the population had declined to 300. It was revitalized in 1856 when Austria made it the base for its fleet. Today. Pula is a university town and, with Pazin (see pp66-7), the administrative centre of Istria.



Arch of the Sergians, 1st century BC

#### Arch of the Sergians Slavoluk obitelii Sergiievaca

Ulica Sergijevaca.

The arch was erected in the 1st century BC on the orders of Salvia Postuma Sergia, to honour three brothers who held important positions in the Roman Empire. The arch is small with fluted columns, a winged Victory and Corinthian capitals. Its frieze has a bas-relief depicting a chariot pulled by horses.

Next door is a bar named Uliks ("Ulysses"), in memory of James Joyce, who lived here for six months in 1904.

#### (†) Chapel of St Mary of Formosa

Kapela Marije Formoze Maksimilijanova ulica. Closed to public.

A small Byzantine chapel built on a Greek cross plan, this was once part of the large Basilica of St Mary of Formosa. Inside are remains of mosaics from the 6th century.

#### (f) Church of St Francis Sv Frane

Uspon R Lupetine 5 Open Jun-Sen: 10am-1nm 4-8pm: Oct-May: for Mass.

Built at the same time as the adiacent monastery in the late 13th century, this church has a fine doorway with a Gothic rose window. The interior is a single nave with three apses; on the main altar is a splendid wooden. 15th-century polyptych of the Emilian school Various exhibits from the imperial Roman era can be seen in the monastery cloisters.

#### Temple of Augustus Augustov hram

Forum, Tel (052) 218 603. Open Apr-Jun: 9am-9pm Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm Sat & Sun; Jul & Aug: 9am-10pm Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm Sat & Sun; Sep: 9am-8pm Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm

Built in the 1st century AD, this temple stands in the square which was once the site of the Roman forum. It is a splendid

Sat & Sun: Oct-Mar: by appt.



Temple of Augustus, a jewel of Roman architecture



The Cathedral's interior, a combination of styles and periods

example of Roman architecture. built on simple lines, with six plain columns and beautiful carved capitals.

#### f Cathedral Katedrala

Trg sv. Tome 2. Open Jun-Sep: 10am-1pm, 4-8pm; Oct-May; for Mass. The Cathedral, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, was founded in the 5th century after Pula became an episcopal seat. Its present appearance dates back only as far as the 17th century, However, parts of the walls, some of the capitals and the windows are from the original building. On the right is a doorway from 1456, while the bell tower, which was built by 1707, contains stone blocks from the amphitheatre.

#### (†) Church of St Nicholas Sv. Nikola

Castropola 39. Open for Mass. (052) 212 987 (tourist office).

This church dates from the 6th century but was partially rebuilt in the 10th century. Towards the end of the 15th century it was assigned to the Orthodox community. Inside are some fine icons from the 15th and 16th centuries.

#### Castle & Historical and Maritime Museum of Istria

Povijesni i pomorski muzej Istre Gradinski uspon 6. Tel (052) 211 566. Open Jun-Sep: 8am-9pm daily; Oct-May: 9am-5pm daily. 2

This star-shaped castle with four bastions houses the Historical

and Maritime Museum of Istria and was built by the Venetians in the 17th century on the ruins of the Roman Capitol in the city centre. The walls linking the four towers offer views over the city Nearby are remains of a small 2nd-century Roman theatre.

#### Twin Gate Dvoina vrata

Carrarina

The gate, from the 2nd-3rd centuries, has two arches with an ornate frieze Nearby

are parts of the wall which once encircled the city.

#### IIII Archaeological Museum of Istria Arheološki muzei Istre Carrarina 3 Tel (052) 351 301 Closed for renovation

untill 2018 🔊 🌠 by appt ami-pula.hr

This museum is housed in the

former German school within a park which is reached from the Twin Gate On display are finds from Pula, with collections from the prehistoric era to the Middle Ages On the ground floor are architectural remains mosaics altars and other exhibits from antiquity to medieval times.

The rooms on the first floor contain exhibits from the Neolithic to the Roman era Three rooms on the second

floor are dedicated to Roman antiquity. Highlights of this collection include a headless female statue found at Nesactium, near Pula).

Two rooms at the museum have exhibits from the late Classical to medieval periods Of particular interest are pieces from Slavic tombs dating from the 7th to the

12th centuries

Headless Statue Archaeological Museum

#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Map A3, 75 60,000, 77 Tourist office: Forum 3, (052) 219 197. Music events in Arena. Pula Amphitheatre (summer) Croatian Film Festival (summer)

w pulainfo.hr

#### Transport

8 km (5 miles), (052) 530 105. Jadroagent, (052) 210 431. (052) 541 722 a 43 istarske

diviziie. (060) 304 090.

#### (A) Gate of Hercules Herculova vrata

#### Carrarina

The arched Gate of Hercules built in the 1st century BC, is the oldest and best-preserved Roman monument in the city At the top of the arch is a carving of the head of Hercules with a club.

#### **Amphitheatre** See pp64-5.

#### **Pula Town Centre**

- (1) Arch of the Sergians Chapel of St Marv
- of Formosa
- 3 Church of St Francis Temple of Augustus
- Cathedral
- Church of St Nicholas
- (7) Castle & Historical and Maritime Museum of Istria
- 8 Twin Gate



# **Pula Amphitheatre**

Amfiteatar

The elliptical arena in Pula is one of the six largest Roman amphitheatres existing today. Originally a small amphitheatre built here by Claudius, it was enlarged by Vespasian in AD 79 for gladiator fights. The amphitheatre could hold 23,000 spectators and had about 20 entrances. It remained intact until the 15th century when some of the stone was used to construct the castle and other buildings in the city. It was restored, first in 1816 by the French governor of the Illyrian provinces, General Marmont, and again in 1932 when it was adapted for musical events. It can seat 5,000 spectators and is a venue for concerts ranging from opera to rock, as well as hosting an annual film festival.

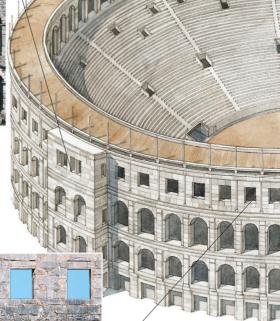


The amphitheatre



#### Four Towers

The roofs of the towers were designed to collect the scented water that was sprayed onto the stalls. It is also thought that there was a structure capable of supporting large awnings as protection from the sun and rain.



#### **Amphitheatre Wall**

The well-preserved external wall of the amphitheatre has three floors on the side facing the sea, and two on the opposite side, because it was constructed on an incline. At its highest point, the external wall measures 29.4 m (96 ft).



#### Interior of the Amphitheatre

When first built, the broad tiers could seat an audience of 23,000 people. Shows of every kind were performed, including naval battles, Today, during the summer season, operas, ballets and plays are put on here



#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Flavijevska ulica **Tel** (052) 219 028. Open summer: 8am-9pm daily (to midnight Jul & Aug): winter: 9am–5pm daily. [20] [4] limited access.



#### Reconstruction

The main floor of the arena 67.75 m (222 ft) long and 41.05 m (135 ft) wide, was originally framed by iron railings to separate spectators from the performance. Between the tiers of seats and the railinas there was a space 3m (10 ft) wide reserved for staff. Along the main axis, under the arena, were underground corridors used by the aladiators and cages for animals. The animals were kept here before being sent into the stadium



#### Arches

The first two floors have 72 arches, the third has 64 large rectangular openings. The arches lit the internal corridors which enabled spectators to move from one sector of the amphitheatre to another.

#### KEY

1) The various corridors which led to the seats allowed spectators to find their places efficiently.

(2) The southwest tower is one of the entrances.

#### Barban

Map B3 6 250 250 Pula 28 km (17 miles). Pula. From Pula. Barban 69, (052) 567 420. Trka na prstenac. Tournament of the Rina (3rd weekend in Aug). w tz-barban hr

A free town in the late Middle Ages, in the 13th century Barban came under the rule of the county of Pazin, and from 1516 until 1797 it was part of Venetian territory. It was granted to the Loredan family in 1535, and many buildings acquired their current Venetian look. The town still has some medieval fortifications which now incorporate

several Renaissance buildings. The Church of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikola) faces the square. which is reached through the Great Gate (Vela Vrata). The church has five marble Gothic altars and many Venetian paintings (16th–18th centuries) one attributed to the Italian artist Padovanino

In the same square is the Loredan Palace from 1606 and towards the Small Gate (Mala Vrata), the Town Hall, dating from 1555.

Outside the Great Gate is the 14th-century Church of St Anthony (Sv. Antun), with frescoes from the 15th century. In 1976, the Tournament of the Ring was revived and costumed lancers on horses participate in this traditional annual event.

# f St Nicholas

Tel (052) 567 173. Open by appt.

# Svetvinčenat

Map A3. 🔼 300. 💂 Pazin. 📼 from Pula. 7 Svetvinčenat 20, (052) 560 349. w tz-svetvincenat.hr

This walled village was built in the 10th century on a small hill around a much restructured fort. The main square is one of the most beautiful in Istria. Many of the main buildings

in the village are found here. including the 15th-century Church of the Annunciation which contains two paintings by Palma il Giovane and an Annunciation by Giuseppe Porto-Salviati

The Castle dates from the 13th century and is one of the best preserved in the region. It belonged to the Venetian families of Castropola

the Morosini and the Grimani In 1589 the Grimani commissioned the architect Scamozzi to convert one of the square towers into a residence for the Venetian governors the other into a prison. High walls

connecting the other two round towers enclose a large internal courtvard. This is reached through the citadel's only gate. which at one time had a drawbridge. The town's coat of arms and that of the Grimani family can also be seen here.

The town's name derives from the Romanesque church and cemetery of St Vincent (Sv. Vinčenat), whose walls were frescoed by an unknown 15th-century artist.

# f St Vincent

Cemetery. **Tel** (052) 560 004. Open by appt.

#### **Environs**

Church of the

Annunciation Svetvinčenat

> About 10 km (6 miles) away are the ruins of **Dvigrad** (Duecastelli), an atmospheric, abandoned walled village. surrounded by lush vegetation.

Around 1000 AD two castles were built on neighbouring hills and were later enclosed by an oval wall. A village of some 200 inhabitants grew up here around the basilica of St Sonhia built between the 11th and 12th centuries

Although attacked and burned by the Genoese in the 14th century during the war with Venice the village soon recovered. In the 17th century. sacking by the Uskoks (see p83) and a malaria epidemic depopulated the village. It has not been inhabited since then.



Reconstruction of a room in the Ethnographic Museum, Pazin

#### Pazin

Map B2, A 5,300, A (052) 624 310. (060) 306 040. The Francine i Jurine 14. (052) 622 460. w central-istria. com/pazin

The town of Pazin originated in the 9th century as a fort and stands on a cliff 130 m (426 ft) high. One side of the cliff falls away to an abyss, which is 100 m (328 ft) deep and about 20 m (65 ft) wide, and is said to have inspired Dante's description of the Gateway to Hell in Inferno. as well as Jules Verne's novel Mathias Sandorf.



Imposing, overgrown ruins of Dvigrad

In the 14th century, Pazin passed into the hands of the Habsburgs, who sold it to the Montecuccoli family in the 18th century. They maintained ownership of the castle after the end of the feudal regime

The castle's present layout dates from the 16th century. The tower is reached through a doorway in the façade made in 1786. It houses the **Ethnographic Museum of Istria** (Etnografski muzej Istre) and the **Pazin Town Museum**, where weaponry and finds from the castle are on display.

The Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Pohođenje Blažene Djevice Marije) and its 15th-century monastery are worth a visit.

Ethnographic Museum of Istria
Castle, Trg Istarskog razvoda 1275,
no 1. Tel (052) 622 220. Open 10am–
6pm daily.

IIII Pazin Town Museum
Castle, Trg Istarskog razvoda 1275,
no 1. Tel (052) 623 054. Open Apr–Oct:
10am–6pm daily; Nov–Mar: 10am–3pm
Tue–Thu, 11am–4pm Fri, 10am–4pm
Sat & Sun. № III W muzei-pazin.hr

#### **®** Gračišće

Map 82. 470. Pazin, 7 km
(4 miles). only during school
year; contact Pazin (060) 306 040.
Franine i Jurine 14, Pazin, (052) 622
460. Central-istria.com/gracisce

This small village stands on a hill among woods and vineyards. It was once a strong military garrison, and the second line of defence for the Venetian Republic and the Habsburg empire. The town has some interesting buildings, such as the 15th-century Salamon Palace and the Bishop's Chapel (both in Venetian Gothic style) where the bishop of Pićan spent the summer.

The Church of **St Mary** (Sv. Marije) was consecrated in 1425 and has a barrel vault and many frescoes. The Romanesque Church of **St Euphemia** (Sv. Eufemija) was built in 1383 and renovated in 1864. It still has a wooden crucifix from the 13th century. The loggia near the main gate dates from 1549.



The hilltop town of Pićan with its 48-m (157-ft) bell tower, one of the tallest in Istria

#### Pićan

Map B2. 1. 320. only during school year; contact Pazin (060) 306 040. 1 Franine i Jurine 14, Pazin, (052) 622 460. c central-istria.com/pican

Known as Petina under the Romans Pićan stands on a hilltop 350m (1.150 ft) high. It was a bishop's see from Late Antiquity to the end of the 18th century, and has some intriguing medieval buildings. Inside the medieval walls is a cathedral dedicated to St Nicephorus. built in the 14th century, and rebuilt in the early 18th century after an earthquake. The story of the Christian martyr Nicephorus is shown in a painting by Valentin Metzinger (1699-1759) in the cathedral. The Romanesque Church of St Michael (Sv. Mihovil) in the cemetery has early 15thcentury frescoes.

#### **1** Labin

The old part of Labin is made up of the medieval part inside the walls, and the part from the Venetian period around Tito Square (Titov Trg). Here stand the 19th-century Town Hall, a 17th-century bastion, a loggia (1550) and the St Flora gate (1587) with a Lion of St Mark.

In the square called Stari Trg lies the Magistrates' Court (1555) and in a street leading off the square stands the Gothic Church of the Blessed Mary's Birth (Rođenje Marijino), built in the late 14th century. A rose

window decorates the façade and inside are works by Venetian artists of the 16th and 17th centuries, including a painting by Palma il Giovane.

In the same street are the Scampicchio Palace and the early 18th-century Baroque Battiala Lazzarini Palace also Venetian-influenced, and now the Town Museum with Roman and medieval finds and a lifelike reconstruction of a coal mine Labin was Croatia's most important coal mining town until the mines were closed down in 1999. In 1921. in opposition to rising Fascism in Italy, 2,000 coalminers set up the Labin Republic, a socialist ministate that barely lasted a month.

#### **IIII** Town Museum

Ulica 1 svibnja. **Tel** (052) 852 477. **Open** May–Sep: 10am–1pm & 5–7pm (Jul & Aug: 6–8pm) Mon–Sat; Oct–Apr: 7am–2pm Mon–Fri (by appt).

#### **Environs**

About 4 km (2 miles) from Labin is Rabac, a popular seaside resort.



Café in Tito Square, Labin



Old Town square of Plomin, surrounded by lush areen trees

#### Plomin

Map B3. A 140. Pula. 54 km (34 miles). A Rijeka, 55 km (34 miles). Vozilići 66, Vozilići; (052) 880 155; Regional: Pionirska 1. Poreč. (052) 452 797

An ancient fortified town once stood here on the site of the Roman town Flanona, which was destroyed by the Avars in the 6th century. It was rebuilt after 1000 AD and took on its present look in the 13th century after it had become Venetian territory. Plomin, built on a sheer cliff 168 m (550 ft) above the bay of the same name, was once densely populated.

Houses take up nearly all the space inside the walls (from the 13th-14th centuries and only partially preserved). Worn, narrow roads climb towards the centre, where the 11th-century Romanesque Church of St George (Sv. Jurai) stands. Inside is a tablet in Glagolitic script also dating from the 11th century, one of the oldest documents in this ancient Slavic script extant in Croatia.

The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Crkva Blažene Dievice Marije) also contains treasures of artistic merit. The church was consecrated in 1474, but was greatly altered in the 18th century. There are three Baroque altars in carved, painted wood and a rich church treasury. A fresco by Albert, a German painter from Konstanz, was found on the wall during restoration work.

#### Mošćenice

Map B2 330 🛣 Rijeka 53 km (33 miles), on the island of Krk. Rijeka. 7 Aleja Slatina bb. Mošćenička Draga, (051) 739 166.

W tz-moscenicka.hr

This small village was founded by the Liburnians on a small hilltop. The structure of the medieval town is still evident. with houses pressed against the walls, narrow streets, small alleys and courtyards. There are lovely views over the Kvarner Gulf from the village.

In the main square is the Church of St Andrew (Sv. Andrije), a building of medieval origin which was rebuilt in the Baroque style in the 17th century Inside are some statues by the Paduan sculptor Jacopo Contieri, Just outside the walls are the small Church of St Sebastian from the 16th century, and the 17th-century Church of St Bartholomew

The history of the area is documented in the Ethnographic Museum (Etnografski Muzei).

#### **IIII** Ethnographic Museum

Tel (051) 737 551. Open summer: 9am-1pm, 6-9pm daily; winter: 11am-3pm daily. Closed Jan & Feb.

#### Environs

A series of steps leads down to Mošćenićka Draga (2 km/1 mile), where there is a large pebble beach.

#### **@** Lovran

Map B2 155 4 000 157 Rijeka 50 km (31 miles island of Krk) 🖪 Rijeka 20 km (13 miles). 📼 Opatija, 6 km (4 miles). 7 Tra slobode 1, (051) 291 740 Asparagus Festival (Apr): Cherry Days (Jun): Marunada. chestnut festival (mid-Oct)

W tz-lovran hr

The town of Lovran (whose name derives from the laurel trees which are common throughout the area) extends along the coast until it meets the long seafront at Opatija (see p69). The old part of the town is situated on a small peninsula along the coast. The houses in the ancient fortified town lean

against the enclosing walls of which only a very few parts and sections remain: just a tower and the

Stubica Gate. In the main square, as well as a medieval tower there are several houses with Venetian Gothic facades and also the Church of St George (Sv. Jurai), built in the 12th century and

rebuilt in the Baroque period, along with a Romanesque bell tower Inside the Statue by Contieri, church church, on the vault and the arch of the

apse are some late-

Gothic frescoes (1470-79) depicting the life of Christ and several saints. A building with a figure of St George stands in the main square and is worth a visit.

Along the coastal promenade. which extends between Lovran and the village of Ika. stand several beautiful early



of St Andrew, Mošćenice

Old mill at the Ethnographic Museum, Mošćenice



Villa Angiolina in Opatiia, surrounded by a splendid park

20th-century Secessionist villas (see p27), surrounded by lush gardens.

#### f St George Open Jul & Aug: 7–9:30pm Mon, Wed & Fri

# **10** Tour of the Fortified Towns

See pp70-71.

# **@** Opatija

Map B2. ☑ 13,000. ☑ Rijeka, 40 km (25 miles), island of Krk. ☑ Rijeka. ☑ Local: Vladimara Nazora 3, (051) 271 710; Regional: Nikole Tesle 2, (051) 272 988. ☑ Carnival of the Riviera (Feb); Coffee Festival (Apr); Gourmet Story (May); Summer Festival (May–Sep); Opatija-Imperial City (Jul); Liburnia Jazz Festival (Jul); Chocolate Festival (Dec). ☑ visitopatija.com

The resort of Opatija takes its name from a 14th-century Benedictine abbey, around which a village was built. On the site of the monastery now stands the Church of St James (Sv. Jakov), built in 1506 and enlarged in 1937.

Tourist interest began to grow in around 1844 when a nobleman from Rijeka, Iginio Scarpa, built the grand **Villa Angiolina** here. The villa is surrounded by a large park and became the first hotel.

A few years later the Austrian Empress Maria Anna stayed here and her visit was immediately followed by visits from other court dignitaries. More luxury hotels and villas were then built and the small town became a fashionable turn-of-the-century resort. Tourism in Opatija was given a boost by the construction of the railway line which linked Austria with Rijeka, with a tram line to Opatija.

The Emperor Franz Joseph also stayed at a hotel here, often for long periods during the winter in order to enjoy the mild climate of the area. Today the coast is still lined with luxury late-19th-century hotels and villas surrounded by parks and gardens. However, it is no longer the height of fashion, although older visitors are drawn by its comparative tranquillity.

#### Kastav

Map B2. ⚠ 10,000. 承 Rijeka, 20 km (12 miles), island of Krk. 承 Rijeka, 11 km (7 miles). Rijeka, 11 km (7 miles). Matka Laginje 5, (051) 691 425. ὧ Bela nedeja, wine festival (first Sun in Oct). ☑ kastav-touristinfo.hr

On a hill a short distance from Rijeka is the town of Kastav which originated in the early Middle Ages. The castle was the residence of the local lord of the manor until the 16th century, and later the home of the Austrian governor. In Lokvina square stand the church of St Anthony of the Desert, which dates from the 15th century, and a loggia from 1571, restored in 1815. By the water trough a plague recalls the drowning in 1666 of Captain Morelli, guilty of imposing excessive taxes.



Opatija, once a royal haunt and now a popular tourist destination

# Tour of the Fortified Towns

The villages and towns of Istria were all fortified. The first people to build walls were the Histri (an Illyrian tribe), who put up defences on the hilltops where they settled. There are 136 such fortified towns in Istria. Many were abandoned, but evidence in some shows continuous occupation from 1000 BC up to the present day. The walls were reinforced in Roman times and rebuilt in the late Middle Ages, then enlarged when the towns came under Austrian or Venetian rule. Documents written in the ancient Glagolitic script can be seen on a detour.



#### (3) Hum

This small village is protected by an oval wall, reinforced by the Venetians. The Church of St. Jerome has splendid 12th-century Byzantine frescoes.

Račice



#### (4) Buzet

An Illyrian fort and a Roman fortification (Pinguentum), Buzet belonged to the Venetians from 1420 onwards. They rebuilt the town wall with a Large Gate and a Small Gate (16th century), Today Buzet is known for its truffles

# oplice





#### (5) Draguć

Medieval walls form the backs of the houses in this village. Ramparts were built by the Venetians after 1420. The 16thcentury Church of St Roch has a series of frescoes, including a Journey of the Magi.

# 0 kilometres 0 miles Key

# Tour route --- Trail of the Glagolitics

== Other roads

### 6 Motovun

This medieval town stands on a hill dominating the valley. The Old Town is still encircled by an original 13th-14th-century wall. Later, a second wall was built around the suburbs. An internal gate, under a 15th-century tower, leads from the Lower Town to the Upper Town.



The wall around Roč was built by the Patriarchate of Aquileia in the 14th century. Towers were added in the 1500s. Roč was an important centre for Glagolitic writing and in the 1200s the alphabet was carved on a wall in the Church of St Anthony Abbot. The Romanesque Church of St Roch contains two fresco cycles.

### Tips for Walkers

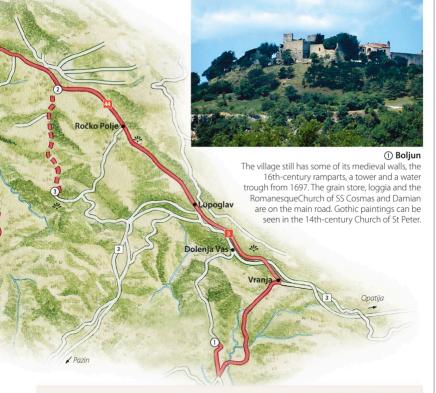
Departure point: Boljun. Distance: 77 km (48 miles) one way. Stopping-off points:

Motovun Konoba Mondo. (052) 681 791 (restaurant):

Hum Humska Konoba (052) 660 005 (restaurant): Buzet Restaurant Toklarija, (091) 926 67 69:

Buzet Šetalište Vladimira Gortana 9. (052) 662 343. Motovun Tra Andrea Antico 1.

(052) 681 726 **Poreč** Istria Tourist Board, Pionirska 1, Poreč. (052) 452 797



## The Trail of Glagolitic Documents

The "Glagolitic Alley" (Aleja Glagoljaša) winds between Roč and Hum. It is 7 km (4 miles) long and was created from 1977 to 1985 to commemorate this ancient Slavic script. Along the way are 11 significant Glagolitic documents recalling events and people who contributed to the spread of the writing, invented in the 9th century by the saints Cyril and Methodius to translate the scriptures into Slavonic in order to disseminate Christian liturgy among Slav peoples.



Glagolitic document in stone on the trail to Roč

# Riieka

Founded by the Liburnians and conquered by the Celts. this town became a Roman city called Tarsatica. Over the centuries it frequently changed hands, and finally came under the rule of the Habsburgs. In 1719, to develop its maritime role. Ferdinand of Habsburg declared Rijeka a free port. The city became part of the kingdom of Hungary in 1870 and its economic importance continued to grow. Together with shipyards and industry. Rijeka is one of Croatia's main ports and a key rail and road junction. In February and March each year, Rijeka hosts Croatia's largest carnival celebrations.



The Korzo, a pedestrian avenue with 19th-century buildings

### **Exploring Rijeka**

Over recent decades, the city has expanded along the coast and into the surrounding hills. However, its Central European atmosphere is still preserved in the majestic 19th-century buildings along the Korzo and the Riva, two broad avenues south of the Old Town (Stari Grad), built on land reclaimed from the sea. The Korzo is the heart of the city, lined with cafés, bars, restaurants and shops.

### (†) Capuchin Church of Our Lady of Lourdes Kapucinska Crkva Gospe Lurdske

Kapucinske stube 5, Tel (051) 335 233. Open 7am-noon, 4-8pm daily.

North of Žabica Square (Trg Žabica), the church was built between 1904 and 1929 on the orders of the abbot of the neighbouring Capuchin monastery on his return from a pilgrimage to Lourdes, to mark the 50th anniversary of the Virgin's miraculous apparition there.

### (†) Church of St Nicholas Pravoslavna crkva hram svetog Nikolaja

Ignacija Henkea 2. Tel (051) 335 399. Open 8am-1pm, 6-6:40pm daily.

This church, built by the Orthodox community in 1790, contains fine icons from Voivodina, Serbia.

### City Tower Gradski Torani

About halfway along the Korzo is the City Tower, first built in the Middle Ages. It has been remodelled several times. most significantly at the turn of the 18th century The clock dates from the 17th century and the dome was added in 1890. An imposina buildina, it is decorated with coats of arms, including those of the city and the Habsburgs, and busts of the emperors Leopold I and Charles VI.

### Town Hall Municipii

Tra Riječke rezolucije.

In 1883, the 14th-century Augustinian monastery was turned into the Town Hall. It takes up three sides of the square and is now used as offices.

#### Roman Arch Stara vrata

Tra Ivana Koblera.

In an alley leading from the north side of the square are the remains of a Roman arch, which was probably a gate to the city. It is a simple stone structure. Nearby, excavations have unearthed the foundations of a perimeter wall from the Roman period.

### ff Church of the Assumption Crkva Uznesenia Blažene Dievice Marije

Pavla Rittera Vitezovića 3. Tel (051) 214 177 **Open** 8am-noon 4-6pm

The Church of the Assumption once a cathedral, preserves little of its original 13th-century aspect. It was renovated in the Baroque style in 1695 and altered in 1726 with Rococo details and a 16th-century rose window was inserted. Inside, the altars. some paintings and the chancel are from the Baroque period. The bell tower bears the date of its construction (1377): the upper part is in Gothic style.

### T St Vitus Cathedral Katodrala sv. Vida

Trg Grivica, **Tel** (051) 330 879. Open 7am-noon, 4:30-7pm.

The Church of St Vitus, patron saint of the city, is now the cathedral. This large Baroque church was built between 1638 and 1742 by the Jesuits.

> Baroque altars and a Gothic crucifix from the 13th century adorn the interior

### Detail of the Civic Tower

Maritime and **History Museum of** the Croatian Littoral Pomorski i povijesni

muzej Hrvatskog primorja

Muzejski trg 1/1. Tel (051) 213 578. Open 9am-4pm Mon, 9am-8pm Tue-Sat, 4-8pm Sun. 🔊

This is the oldest museum in Rijeka, founded in 1876, but since 1955 housed in the



Gothic crucifix in the Cathedral of St Vitus

Governor's Palace built in 1896 The history of navigation is told through the collections of model ships, weapons and seafaring equipment from the 17th and 18th centuries There are also rich archaeological collections from prehistory to the Middle Ages, displays of prints, furniture, paintings and an ethnographic collection.

### Shrine of our Lady of Trsat Svetište Maike Božie Trsatske Frankopanski trg. Tel (051) 452 900.

Open daily.

On the opposite bank of the Riečina river, above the centre of Rijeka, is Treat. At the top of the 561 steps from Tito Square (Titov tra) is the Shrine of Our Lady of Trsat. The church and Franciscan monastery were built in 1453 by Martin Frankopan on the site of a 12th-century church. It was in this church, from 1291 to 1294, that parts of the Holv House of Mary of Nazareth were preserved before being transferred to Loreto in Italy.



Altar of Our Lady of Trsat, with a copy of the painting of the Virgin

To compensate the local people for this loss, in 1367 Pope Urban V donated to them a Virgin with Child, painted by St Luke, a copy of which now stands on the main altar

The sanctuary was visited by soldiers and sailors who left votive aifts, now kept in a chapel next to the cloisters. The church was remodelled in 1864 but retained the triumphal arch, the marble altar which sits underneath the painting of the Virgin, and tombs of the Frankopan family.

(7) St Vitus Cathedral (8) Maritime and History

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Map B2. 7 130,000.

Korzo 14. (051) 335 882. Rijeka's Summer Nights (Jun-Jul) Rijeka Carnival (Feb-Mar)

w visitRijeka.hr

### Transport

Krk (051) 842 132

Krešimirova ulica. (060) 333 444. Trg Žabica 1, (060) 302 010. Senjsko pristanište 3, (051)

212 696: Adriatica d.o.o.: Verdijeva 6. (051) 214 511; Jadroliniia. Riječki lukobran bb. (051) 211 444.

### .... Trsat Castle Trsatski kaštel

Partizanski nut 9a **Tel** (051) 217 714 Open summer: 8am-8pm: winter: 9am-5pm. 🚺 🗖

The Sanctuary of Our Lady leads to a castle built by the Romans to defend Tarsatica, parts of which still survive. In the 13th century, Trsat was owned by the Frankopans, who built another castle on the same site. It offers fine views over the Kvarner gulf.

### Rijeka Town Centre

- ① Capuchin Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
- (4) Town Hall

0 vards

- 6 Church of the Assumption



## @ Cres

The narrow island of Cres is 65 km (40 miles) long. In the north, a colony of native griffon vultures, protected by law since 1986, nests on a plateau swept by the dry, cold bora wind. The south is milder and olives and vines are grown. A single road travels from the north of Cres to the south of Lošini. linking the islands by a bridge. Tourism focuses on just a few villages such as Cres and Osor.



Dry stone walls and olive groves overlooking the town of Cres



### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information Map B3, 🔼 3,200, 🚍 (051) 211 444. 7 Cres: Cons 10, (051) 571 535: Osor: (051) 231 547. w tzg-cres.hr

remains and some splendid monuments, making it a centre of great artistic interest

The heautiful 15th-century Cathedral of the Assumption was completed in 1497 and is built of honey-coloured stone. The facade has an arched tympanum above a doorway with a relief of the Virgin Mary. Inside the church there is a painting of SS Nicholas and Gaudentius on the altar.

The Cres Museum (Creski muzei) occupies the Arsan Palace and has stone inscriptions and interesting finds from the Illyrian and Roman periods, and the early Middle Ages. The facade of the Bishop's Palace (second half of the 15th century) bears coats of arms of the bishops and nobles of the island and the interior is richly decorated Some walls foundations and mosaics are all that remain of the Church of St Peter

### **IIII** Cres Museum Creski muzei

Petris-Arsan Palace, Ribarska 7. Tel (051) 344 963. Open Apr-mid-Jun & mid-Sep-mid-Oct: 9am-noon Tue-Sat; mid-Jun-mid-Sep: 10am-1pm & 7-11pm Tue-Sun: mid-Oct-Mar: by appt. Temporary exhibitions: hours vary, phone ahead, Closed Mon.



Door of the Gothic Church of Our Lady of the Snow, Cres

# a Lošinj (Lussino)

The island of Lošinj has a mild climate and sub-tropical vegetation with maritime pines, palms, oleanders and citrus trees. The main town, Mali Lošinj, was founded in the 12th century, when 12 Croat families landed here. The most famous beach is at Čikat bay, southwest of Mali Lošinj. It is 30 km (19 miles) long and a popular place for water sports.



Interior of the church of St Anthony Abbot, Veli Lošinj

### Mali Lošini

This pretty town, which, like Cres, belonged to Venice for many centuries, has many buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries when maritime activity was at its height. The oldest part of the town lies around the 18thcentury Church of St Mary. The Museum of Apoxyomenos houses the famous bronze statue of Apoxyomenos, a Greek work that dates back to the 2nd or 1st century BC. The fascinating story of the statue's discovery and restoration is told through interactive exhibits.

### Veli Lošini

Quieter than Mali Lošinj, this is a lovely town with villas hidden among the vegetation. The church of St Anthony Abbot (Sv. Antun Pustinjak) was built in the 18th century on the site of a smaller 15th-century church. It has a rich store of paintings, with examples by Bartolomeo Vivarini (1430–90), Bernardo Strozzi (1581–1644) and Francesco Hayev (1791–1882). The Baroque style is much in evidence on the seven altars.

There is a splendid view of the town and the coastline from the 16th-century tower of the Uskoks (see p83).

### **Environs**

The island of Susak is renowned for its unusual geology: a 10-m (33-ft) laver of sand covering a calcareous platform. Vines grow well on this soil and all the islanders have vinevards: their wealth is measured by the number of vines they own. The vines. grown on terraces and protected by cane windbreaks. are further sheltered by drystone walls which are typical of the islands and the coastline of the upper Adriatic. The picturesque, brightly coloured women's costumes are famous. They are made by the islanders during the winter months and shown off at festivals

The island of **Ilovik**, south of Lošinj, covers an area of nearly 6 sq km (2.3 sq miles) and is home to about 170 people, most of whom live in the village of Ilovik on the northeast coast. Vines, olives, fruit and flowers grow well in this mild climate. Nearby is the uninhabited island of 5v. Petar, where there are the ruins of a Venetian fortress and a Benedictine Abbey with a church and monastery. Prehistoric and Roman finds





# — Path

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### **Practical Information**

Map B3. 🔝 8,500. Mali Lošinj: Priko 42, (051) 231 547/051) 231 884; For Unije, Susak and Ilovik, contact the Tourist Office at Mali Lošini.

### w visitlosini.hr

### Transport

Mali Lošinj, (051) 231 765.

(mosaics, coins and other objects) have been discovered on Susak and Ilovik.

Unije is the largest of the lesser islands. It is hilly with little vegetation and a steep rocky coast on the eastern side, but there is a more accessible coast on the western side. The village is built around the Church of St Andrew. The islanders make their living from market gardening or fishing.



Overlooking the fishing harbour of Mali Lošinj

# ® Risniak National Park: The Leska Trail

Nacionalni park Risniak

The vast Gorski Kotor plateau, separating Croatia from Slovenia. begins north of Rijeka. Part of the area has been declared a national park in order to protect the forests and natural environment and the ecological balance of the area. The park, set up in 1953, first covered an area of 32 sq km (12 sq miles), but it is now double that size, most of it made up of forests and grasslands with many karst (limestone) features. The climatic conditions. caused by the territory's particular exposure and altitude, are very varied and about 30 different plant communities have been identified. The Leska trail was set up in 1993, and 23 information panels inform visitors about various aspects of this area.



### (8) Silver Fir Forest

The silver fir, in great demand for boat building has disappeared from many woods in Croatia: here it minales with beech trees

### (7) Chasm

Cold air from the chasm and the damp subsoil of this rocky fissure make the flora of great interest: plants which normally only grow at the higher altitudes of the park can be found here

### 6 Feed Troughs

Hranilište

Feed troughs are set up here in winter to provide food for all the animals in the park.

### Observatory Observ

From this viewing platform the behaviour of animals such as bears, foxes, lynxes, martens and wild cats can be observed in the woods. There are also many birds, both nonmigratory and birds of passage. Towards evening at certain times of the year, eagles, hawks and crows can also be seen

### (10) Cultivating the Countryside

Only one house is inhabited in the village of Leska. It is used from spring to autumn by farmers, who come to grow potatoes, peas and beans on specially built terraces.

### (II) Springs

Water flows under the layers of impervious rock and springs are created where the water emerges.



### (2) Tree Trunks Fungi thrive in the cracks of old tree

trunks providing a source of food for insects too.



### (5) Beech and Fir Forests

The trail goes through woods of fir and beech trees: many of the trees are very large. The underarowth consists of hazelnut bilberry and elder bushes.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Map B2. Bijela Vodica 48. Crni Lug, (051) 836 133, (051) 836 261. Open summer: 7am-10pm daily: winter: 7am-9pm daily. 2 The Leska trail is 4.2 km (2.6 miles) long, easy and well signposted. It takes about 2 hours to cover w risniak.hr



### (4) Mountain Meadows The areas which

were deforested for agriculture or grazing land for animals are now mountain meadows. In late spring they explode with the varied colours of heather, purple moor grass, fescue and other grasses.



0 metres	 200
0 yards	200

CrniLug

### (1) Conservation of Trees

The protection of the older, larger plant species was one of the reasons the reserve was set up. Within the park are examples of enormous ancient beech, spruce and silver fir trees, and also some rarer trees, such as the mountain elm and maple.

### ② Storm Damage

When strong winds blow down old or sick trees, they are left where they fall as they provide suitable growing conditions for microorganisms such as fungi.

### Key

Pedestrian trail

== Other roads



### (3) Karst Sinkholes

A karst sinkhole is a funnel-shaped hollow in the land. This feature is caused by water erosion of the rock and is characteristic of limestone areas.





This is the largest of the Adriatic islands, with an area of 409 sg km (158 sg miles). A bridge links the island to the mainland, built to provide good connections to the island's international airport. Along the eastern coast the island looks almost ghostly, its white rocks swept by the bora wind. Inland and on the more protected western coast, there is rich, lush vegetation.



Crystal-clear waters surrounding the island of Krk

Krk was first inhabited by the Liburnians, followed by the Romans, who founded Curicum (the present-day Krk) and Fulfinum, Traces of walls, baths and villas with floor mosaics still remain

In the 6th century it came under Croatian rule and after the Frankish and Byzantine occupation it became part of the possessions of Venice. It was then granted to Dujam I. founder of the Frankopan family, and from 1480 to 1797 it was directly ruled by Venice.

Krk was a centre for Glagolitic script and the Baška Tablet, now in the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences in Zagreb, was found on the island

### Krk Town

The town of Krk developed in the Middle Ages on the site of the Roman town of Curicum. The wall and three Venetian city gates are still visible: the City Gate with a guard tower called Kamplin, the Sea Gate (Pisana) and the Upper Gate. Facing the main square are Renaissanceera buildings and in the area of the Roman baths is the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption, dating from the 1100s but modified since. The three-aisle church has a façade

of light- coloured stone. Inside are four paintings (1706) by Cristoforo Tasca, and a fine

The treasury is in the adjacent Romanesque Church of St Quirinus which

**Omišali** 

Njivice

Šepići

Malinska •

Porat d

Glavotok

wooden Baroque pulpit.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Map B3. 7 17.860. Krk island: Trg sv. Kvirina 1. Krk. (051) 221 359: Krk town: Vela

nlaca 1 (051) 221 414 Baška Kralia Zvonimira 114 (051) 856 817: Niivice: Ribarska obala 10. (051) 846 243. W krk.hr

### Transport

(051) 842 040.

Valbiska: (051) 863 170. Baška: (051) 856 821.

houses the Diocesan Museum This contains works from the cathedral and other churches on the island including the silver Frankopan altarpiece depicting the Virgin Mary in Glory and a polyptych (1350) by Paolo Veneziano

Behind the cathedral stands the Frankopan castle with four square towers from 1191, and a round tower from the Venetian period. Inside the walls are churches dedicated to Our Lady of Health and St Francis. The latter has an engraved wooden pulpit.

### Omišali

Omišali lies on a headland near the site of Roman Fulfinum. The village (Castrum Musculum in the Middle Ages) was enclosed by Rudine walls, some of which Klimno

Vrbnik

square with a 17th-century Venetian

survive. There is a

A 7 Košliun Valbiska Punat lurandvor Baška

0 kilometres

0 miles

KRK

Key Major road

Minor road

Scenic route

Stara Baška

loggia, the Church of St Helen with reproductions of Glagolitic script, and the Romanesque church of Assumption of St Mary (Uznesenja Marijina) (13th century) with a dome, bell tower and 16th-century choir, and a 15th-century triptych by lacoballo del Fiore



Glagolitic inscription and rose window, Assumption of Mary, Omišalj

#### Raška

Not to be confused with isolated Stara Baška (Old Baška) Omišalj. Baška (New Baška) is on the coast and is a popular tourist resort with a beautiful beach, 2 km (1 mile) long, and clear sea. The Church of the Holy Trinity (1723) stands in a small square; inside is a fine Last Supper by Palma il Giovane.

Behind Baška, around a castle destroyed in the 11th century, is Stari grad, with the Romanesque Church of St John, rebuilt in 1723.

In the Church of St Lucy in Jurandvor, a short distance from Baška, is a copy of the Baška Tablet (the original is in Zagreb), the oldest document in Croatia written in Glagolitic script in 1100.

### Košljun

Just offshore from Punat, this small islet is best known for its Franciscan monastery, where for centuries the monks have collected not just sacred objects, but all manner of valuable and curious items. Its zoological collection is noted for its assembly of seashells, and among the library's 30,000-odd titles is one of only three surviving copies of the atlas of Ptolemy, printed in Venice in 1511.

### **@** Bakar

Map 82. 🔼 1,600. 🚺 Primorje 39, (051) 761 111. 🛣 Margaretá's Summer, concerts, sports events and shows in the *čakavski* dialect (Jun– Aug). w tz-bakar.hr

The demolition of a refinery and a coke plant has brought visitors back to this town, which was once a popular destination for people attracted to the landscape of the area and curious about the phenomena of the fresh-water springs. These springs originate in underground sources and flow out to the coast.

The Frankopan Castle and surrounding fishing village are also worth a visit. The village stands on the site of the Roman Volcera. From the 13th century until 1577 it belonged to the Frankopans who, in the early 14th century, built a triangular-shaped castle. It is still well preserved with high windows which were salvaged when it was transformed into a palace for the Šubić-Zrinski family who lived in the property after the Frankopans

The parish Church of St Andrew the Apostle has a painting of the *Holy Trinity* by Girolamo da Santacroce and a Crucifix from the 14th century.

Situated close to the Church of St Andrew, the Turkish House, also known as "The House of Painters", draws visitors who come to admire its exotic, Ottoman-style architecture.

Bakar keeps its naval traditions alive thanks to the prestigious Maritime Academy, which was founded in 1849.



Internal courtyard in the Frankopan castle, Kraljevica

### Kraljevica

Map B2. ⚠ 4,600. ☒ Rijeka. ☵ (051) 282 078. ☒ Rovina bb, (051) 282 078. ☒ Shrovetide sezona, traditional masked ball (carnival). ☒ tzg-kralievica.hr

A well-known tourist resort on the mainland, Kraljevica is linked to the island of Krk by a long bridge which also connects with Rijeka airport (on Krk). In the Old Town (Stari Grad) is a castle, built in the 16th century by the family of the counts of Subić-Zrinski. The castle walls also shelter the small Church of St Nicholas.

A village inhabited by families from the fortress of Hreljin developed around the castle. In the new district (Novi Grad), on a small promontory above the sea, is a castle built by the Frankopan family in 1650 in the late-Renaissance style. It has a square ground-plan with four round towers. It was turned into a magnificent palace in the middle of the 18th century.

In 1728, the Austrian emperor Charles VI began to create a sizeable port here, at the end of a road that went from Karlovac to the sea



The Frankopan castle in Bakar, dominating the village

### Crikvenica

Map 82 5 5 800 X Rijeka 16 km (10 miles), island of Krk. 📾 Nike Veliačića 3. (060) 300 100. Stiepana Radića 1c. (051) 241 051. Oily fish week (Jun): Trade fair of Croatian products (Jul): Town festival (Aug). v rivieracrikvenica.com

A Roman staging post called Ad Turres existed here at one time. with a port for trading in timber In 1412 Nikola Frankopan (whose name derives from the noble Roman family of the Frangipani) built a castle here. It was later donated to the Pauline order, who set up a church. monastery and school. In the 16th century a wall and a round tower were built and in 1659 the church was enlarged by adding a nave. The town, now a popular tourist resort, takes its name from the monastery. At the beginning of the 19th century, the Pauline order was dissolved and in 1893 the ancient monastery was turned into the Hotel Kaštel (see p226).

The town has a long pebble beach and is one of the most popular tourist resorts along this stretch of coast. Thanks to its position, protected from the winds by the Velebit mountains. it enjoys a mild climate with dry summers and warm winters.



Gate of the former Pauline monastery, now a hotel, in Crikvenica



The altar in the Church of SS Philip and James, Novi Vinodolski

### Novi Vinodolski

Map B3. 58 4.000. ST Rijeka. 28 km (17 miles), island of Krk, 🖪 Rijeka, 49 km (30 miles). Ulica kralia Tomislava 6. (051) 791 171. Patron saints' day, Philip and James (May): Novi Vinodolski summer carnival (1st weekend Jul).

W tz-novi-vinodolski.hr

The Old Town, built on a hill overlooking the Vinodol valley, holds an important place in Croatian history On 6 January 1288. in the castle built by the Frankopan dukes, the Vinadal Codex one of the oldest legislative Croatian texts in the ancient Glagolitic script, was produced. The document is now in the National Library in Zagreb. It was signed by the representatives of nine communes, and established rules for the ownership and use of local land

In 1988, the 700th anniversary of the Vinodol Codex, a fountain created by the sculptor Dorijan Sokolić was placed in the central square of Novi. The fountain bears the names of the places which participated in drawing up the laws.

The town is also remembered for the stratagem used by Bishop Kristofor to save the troops defeated by the Turks: the horses' shoes were put on backwards so as to foil their pursuers. Having reached the safety of Vinodol Castle, the bishop gave thanks by

rebuilding the Church of SS Philip and James (Sv. Filip i Jakov). He was huried here in 1499 The church decorated in the 17th century in the Baroque style, has a magnificent altar from that period. The side altar has a Gothic Virgin Mary from the 15th century.

The 13th-century Frankopan Castle has been restored and is now a museum, with exhibits from the Roman and medieval periods and a rich varied collection of traditional folk costumes

### Seni

Costume in the castle of Novi Vinodolski

Map C3. 757 8,000. Rijeka, 52 km (32 miles); Island of Krk. . Obala kralia Zvonimira 8. (060) 394 394. 395 Stara cesta 2. (053) 881

068. Feast of St George (23 Apr). w tz-senj.hr

The cold wind known as the bora of Seni blows through a pass in the Velebit chain of mountains, making the town the chilliest place in the Adriatic. People have long been aware of it, yet despite this notoriety, Senj has always been inhabited, first by the Illyrians, then by the Romans who first created a port at Senia.

This became a bishopric in 1169 and an important trading port for the transport of timber. After 1000 AD it was granted to the Templar Knights. It then passed to the Frankopans, and finally came under the direct rule of the

### The Uskoks

In 1526, shortly before the Battle of Mohács, numbers of Christians from the hinterland fled to the safer coastal cities to escape the Turks. The refugees were called "Uskoks" ("the ones who jumped in") and their main desire was to fight those who had taken their land; and they carried out a highly successful guerrilla war. Initially they were organized by Venice around the fortress of Klis, from which they attacked the Turk-occupied land. In 1537 the Turks conquered Klis. Some Uskoks went to Primošten, but the main nucleus settled in Senj, under the rule of the Habsburgs, who encouraged them to procure fast boats in order to plunder the heavy Venetian ships. When Austria also slowed down operations against the Turks, the Uskoks took up piracy and started sacking coastal towns. At the end of the war between Venice and the Ottoman empire in 1617, the emperor was forced to remove the Uskoks from the coast and they and their families were transported to the west of Zagreb. to the Zumberak mountains.



Relief in the Museum of the Uskoks, Seni



Nehai Castle, dominating the town of Seni

King of Hungary. As defence against the Turks, the Habsburgs established the first station of the Military Frontier (Vojna krajina) here. This stronghold had a powerful outer wall which is now only partly preserved.

After the Battle of Mohács in 1526, many Uskoks from Sini and Klis came to Senj, and were co-opted by the local Austrian governor in the fight against the Turks. Their presence is recorded in Nehai Castle, a fortress built on a square plan, constructed in 1553–8 by the Uskok captain Ivan Lenković on a hill a short distance from the town. It was positioned so as to sight approaching ships. The well-laidout Museum of the Uskoks is on the first floor of the fort, and has an excellent view over the bay.

In the southern part of the wide bay is the main square, called Cilnica. Facing the square is the Frankopan palace, built in 1340 and altered in the 19th century. There are also large salt warehouses, and, further in, the Cathedral of St Mary (Sv. Marija), built in the 13th century and altered in

the Baroque period. It has tombstones with Renaissance reliefs and Baroque works, including an altar decorated with four marble statues.

A short distance from the

square is the Vukasović Palace which houses the **Civic Museum** (Gradski muzej Senj), a museum of local history. The palace was once the residence of an Uskok captain. Flanking the roads of the town and in the Small Square (Mala placa), also known as Campuzia, are Renaissance buildings such as the Town Hall with its splendid loggia. Nearby is the Leon tower

(Leonova kula), dedicated to Pope Leo X, and the small, pretty church of St Mary.

#### **Environs**

The small village of **Jablanac** lies 37 km (23 miles) south of Senj. This bustling place is a good starting point for visiting the Velebit massif.

Jablanac is a well-preserved town and worth an unhurried visit. It was a county seat and its representatives met in the medieval castle. The castle was built by the Ban (governor) Stjepan Šubić, as was the church and its cemetery, both known from documents from 1251. The castle is now in ruins. Nearby, the port of **Stinica** is a departure point for ferries to the island of Rab.

To the east of Jablanac is the Sjeverni Velebit National Park (Nacionalni park Sjeverni Velebit) where there is an interesting **Botanical Garden** (Botanički vrt) founded in 1966 on the slopes of Mount Zavižan at an altitude of 1.576 m (5.169 ft).



The picturesque harbour of Jablanac, south of Senj

### @ Rah

The island of Rab lies parallel to the Velebit massif, creating a channel which was much dreaded by sailors because it forms a tunnel for the cold, dry bora wind which makes this part of the coast rocky and barren. The opposite, western side of the island is protected from the wind and the climate is mild. Here the landscape is much greener and maguis alternates with woods of pine, oak and holm oak. The Romans knew the island by the name of Arba, or Scadurna, and, after its conquest, built a settlement on the site of the present-day town of Rab. This island is a popular holiday destination with its sandy beaches, rocky coves and mild climate.

### Rab Town

The main town, Rab. which gives its name to the island became a bishopric in the early Christian period and was inhabited by Slavic people in the 6th century. After it had been conquered by the Franks, it was

administered by Venice and a treaty of mutual defence was agreed upon which lasted until 1000 AD Rab was at times under the rule of the Hungarian kings until 1409, when it became Venetian territory. Venice ruled the island until 1797

The town, famous for its four bell towers which make it look like a ship with four masts. has some lovely Venetian architecture. Along the three main streets are fine aristocratic buildings with Romanesque doorways, such as the Nimira. Tudorin, Kukulić, Galzigna and Cassio Palaces The ancient medieval walls that encircled



Sea Gate, one of the ways into the town of Rab



The town of Rah with its four hell towers

the Old Town on the southern point of the peninsula were destroyed, and in the 15th century a wall was built which also enclosed the New Town called Varoš Part of this wall is well preserved, particularly the stretch facing the bay of St Euphemia.

### 🔚 Loggia

Srednia ulica, Rab. Where the main road, Srednia ulica, widens out, there is a beautiful Venetian loggia, built in 1506 in Renaissance style. and a granary (fondak). To the left is the Sea Gate (Morska vrata), a tower from the 14th century. Through the gate is the town square.

### Prince's Palace Knežev dvor

Trg Municipium Arba, Rab. Tel (051) 724 064. Open call for opening times. The port and the town square are the heart of Rab, and this is also where the Prince's Palace was built in the 13th century in the Romanesque style. It was later enlarged in the Gothic style and then rebuilt in the Renaissance style. It has Venetian Gothic windows and Renaissance mullioned

windows. In the courtvard are some Roman and medieval remains

### (†) Monastery and Church of St Andrew Sv Andrija

Ulica Ivana Rablianina, Rab. This small Romanesque church is annexed to a Benedictine convent founded in 1118. The hell tower the oldest in Rah is from the following century. The belfry has trefoil windows.

### (†) Cathedral of St Mary the Great

### Katedrala Sv. Marija Velika Ulica Ivana Rablianina, Rab.

This splendid Romanesque building was consecrated by Pope Alexander III in 1177. The facade has alternating layers of pink and white stone and above the portal is a sculpted Deposition by Petar Trogiranin dating from 1514. The threeaisle interior divided by columns, has a beautiful baptismal font made by the same sculptor in 1497, and a polyptych by Paolo Veneziano (1350) on the altar.

In the presbytery is a splendid altar canopy with marble columns and on the main altar, surrounded by an ornate wooden choir. is a reliquary from the 12th century with the remains of St Christopher.

The 13th-century bell tower stands 70 m (230 ft) away from the cathedral. It is the tallest of all the bell towers on the island



The bell tower of the Cathedral of St Mary the Great

# Thapel of St Anthony

Sv. Antun

Ulica ribara, Rab.

The small church of St Anthony, dating from 1675, is a good example of religious Baroque architecture. Inside is a marble inlaid altar and a 17th-century painting from the Venetian school.

# † Franciscan Convent of St Anthony Abbot

Sv. Antun Opat

Rab. **Tel** (051) 724 064. **Open** call for opening times.

The Church and Convent of St Anthony Abbot stand behind the cathedral at the end of the promontory. This convent, built for a closed order of nuns, was founded in 1497 by the noblewoman Magdalena Budrišić.

### **†** Church of St Francis Sv. Frane

Park Komrčar, Rab.

The church dates from 1491 and stands to the north of the town in Komrčar Park. It is a blend of Gothic and Renaissance and has an original façade with three sculpted shells.



The altar in the Renaissance Church of St. Justine in Rah

# (†) Convent and Church of St Justine

Sv. Justine

Gornja ulica, Rab. **Tel** (051) 724 064. **Open** call for opening times.

The convent and church were consecrated in 1578, and were intended for nuns from non-noble families. The bell tower with its onion dome dates from 1672. The church now houses a Museum of Holy Art, with the crucifix of King Koloman from 1112, and the reliquary of St Christopher (12th century), protector of the town. Also

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Road Map B3. M 9,000.

☐ Trg Municipium Arba 8, Rab town, (051) 724 064. M musical evenings, Church of the Holy cross (Jun-Sep); Tournament of Rab (75-27 Jul) W rab-visit.com

Transport

from Rijeka, Stinica, Pag, Valbiska (Krk); (051) 724 122.

Palit (060) 306 080

on display are paintings and panels, including a polyptych by Paolo Veneziano (1350), Gospels and illuminated books in Glagolitic script.

### Kampor

Kampor lies at the end of a long bay (Kamporska Draga) and has preserved its stone houses and terraces of olives and vines. Many holiday houses have sprung up around the village.

The Franciscan Convent of St Euphemia, with a small adjacent Romanesque church, is near the Church of St Bernard. The church contains two panels by Bartolomeo and Antonio Vivarini, a Byzantine panel (14th century) and other works. In the cloister there are various tombs and the sarcophagus of Magdalena Budrišić, the noblewoman who founded the convent of St Anthony Abbot in Rab.

### Lopar

The village of Lopar is at the end of a rocky peninsula. It is a popular spot thanks to the sandy beaches fringed by pinewoods and the leisure facilities on offer (tennis, football and mini-golf).



Polyptych by the Vivarini, Church of St Bernard, Kampor







## Plitvice Lakes National Park

Nacionalni park Plitvička jezera

The Plitvice Lakes National Park, set in the heart of Croatia, was founded in 1949. This area of 300 sq km (115 sq miles), covered in lakes and forest, has been part of the UNESCO World Heritage list since 1979. It is particularly known for its spectacular waterfalls. There are 16 lakes within the park and visitors can move around by following the paths along the shores or by using footbridges. Shuttle buses take people to the starting points of the trails and to the hotels in the park. The largest lake can be toured by electric boat. There are no towns or villages in the reserve, only hotels.



A hut by the lake shore



### **Footbridges**

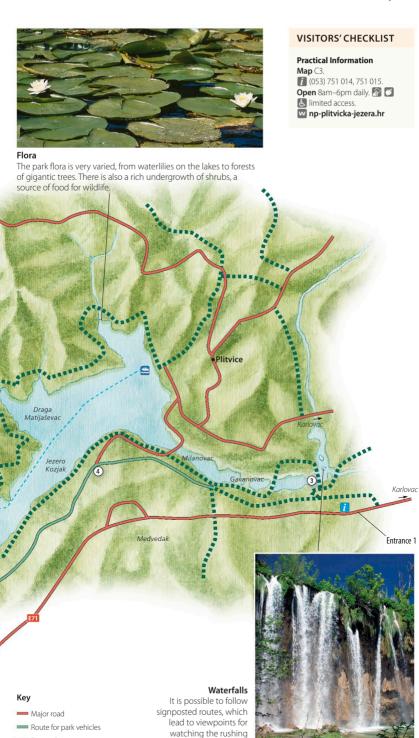
Numerous footbridges and rowing boats enable visitors to get from one shore of a lake to another and are a lovely way to access and explore the fir, pine and beech forests.

### KFY

- ① Dense forests alongside the waters are home to some of the largest European species of animal, including wolves, lynxes, foxes, wild boar, roebucks, wild cats, otters and badgers.
- ② The bird life is extremely varied: 160 species have been recorded, including the eagle, marsh harrier, peregrine falcon, hoopoe, kingfisher, heron, little owl, and tawny owl.
- ③ Along the banks of the River Korana, into which the lakes drain, are a few shepherds' huts and several sawmills, which are run on hydraulic power. The river flows between steep cliffs in a spectacular natural landscape.
- The park vehicles, shuttle buses, take visitors around the area on special routes.



0 yards



waters as they cascade

from the lake above.

-- Footpath

--- Boat route

For keys to symbols  $see\ back\ flap$ 



# DALMATIA

Dalmatia is the most visited region of Croatia. Although tourism collapsed in the 1990s because of the war, visitors have long since returned to the rocky coastline and sandy beaches, the deserted islands and the splendid cities of this Adriatic region. As a consequence of relationships and trade with Italy, an Adriatic culture developed here which has given Dalmatia an Italianate feel.

In the 1st century BC, after two centuries of war, the Romans managed to conquer the Dalmatian and Liburnian tribes and integrate them into their system. For over three centuries the region enjoyed a period of prosperity which was eventually brought to an end by the arrival of peoples from Asia, including the Slavs in the 7th century.

In 915, after a long period of wars and unrest, the first Croatian kings founded a new state, blessed by papal authority. New public and religious buildings, walls and town halls were built, the arts began to flourish, and trading with the Italian coast increased. This was a period of great cultural vitality, which survived the collapse of the Croatian state and its integration into the Kingdom of Hungary in the 12th century. In 1409, after a long series of conflicts, the Hungarian king sold the islands and many of the coastal

cities to Venice. In the 16th century, there followed a second flowering of the arts, and the sculptors, architects, painters, writers and scholars of this period laid the foundations for the future development of Croatian culture, art and literature.

In late spring, when the Jadranska magistrala coast road has vet to be invaded by heavy summer traffic, this must be one of the loveliest parts of Europe. From Karlobag the road winds along the edge of the Velebit mountain chain and the Dalmatian and the Biokovo plateaux. Seawards is the long, lunar-surfaced island of Pag and further along are the islands around 7adar, those around Split, and finally the lovely island of Mliet, set in an azure sea. Behind are hillsides. covered in vineyards and maguis vegetation, dominated by the bright vellow flowers of broom.



A secluded beach on the island of Mljet

<sup>■</sup> Walls of the Old Town, Dubrovnik – the "pearl of the Adriatic"

# **Exploring Dalmatia**

To the north is Zadar, with its exceptional monuments, and the islands of the Zadar archipelago, the southern part of which is designated the Kornati National Park. The road travels on to Sibenik, with its perfectly preserved Old Town centre and splendid cathedral, and Trogir, an architectural jewel. The ruins of the Roman town of Salona are just outside the city of Split. which developed within the Palace of Emperor Diocletian. The coastal road turns inland to cross the delta of the Neretva and reaches Ston, a point of access to the peninsula of Peliešac. Finally, on a rocky spur stands the medieval city of Dubrovnik. now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. ▶ Karlovac Otočao Bell tower of the Cathedral, Zadar \* Seni Udbina Riieka Karlobag PAG ΔŒ Olit NATIONAL PARK Sučevići Linhad Privlaka Obrova Posedari NIN ZADAR ARCHIPETAGO MKNIN Bibinje Kistanje Biskupija Dugi Otok

\*ORNATI NATIONAL PARK Velil. Pernébo 9 DRNIŠ A DSINJ Vodice **1** 8 H ŠIBENIK = Kev Trili 12 KEIS Motorway TROGIR T 16 SALONA Major road PRIMOŠTEN (B) H ## A 15 0 Minor road MARINA 14 SPLIT OMIŠ 22 = = Motorway under construction MAA Supetar Main railway ŠOLTA 18 **P** County border BRAC International border SPĹJŤ -- Ferry route Ancona Stari Grad △ Summit Hvar **Getting Around** Pescara The most comfortable way to visit Dalmatia Svetac is by car, which allows you to stop when and Biševo where you like. Traffic is always heavier during the summer holiday months. Cities and towns are not directly connected by railway, but buses are frequent and run between almost all the Sušac p

towns. The main coastal towns and the more important islands are linked by frequent ferry connections (see pp278-9). Yachts can be hired for cruising along the coast (see p258).





# LILLINGARY SLOVENIA • ZAGRER ADRIATIO

Locator Map

### Sights at a Glance

- 1 Zadar pp94–7
- 2 Zadar Archipelago pp98-9
- 3 Kornati National Park pp100-1
- A Nin
- Paklenica National Park
- Pag pp104–5
- Krka National Park pp106-7
- 8 Šibenik pp108–11
- O Drniš
- M Knin

- Sinj
- Klis
- Primošten
- Marina
- ♠ Troair pp114–17
- **13** Salona pp118–19
- **1** Split pp120−25
- Brač
- 20 Vis np128-9
- **1** Hvar pp130-33
- **2** Omiš
- Makarska
- Gradac

- 25 Opuzen
- 28 Narona
- Neum
- Pelješac Peninsula
- Marcula no 138-40
- Badiia
- Lastovo
- 3 Mljet National Park pp142-2
- **33** Dubrovnik pp146–53
- Elaphite Islands
- 3 Cavtat
- Monayle



# • Zadar

Originally Illyrians inhabited this narrow peninsula, but its present layout dates back to Roman rule, when the straight roads and forum were built. It became an important municipium, and a port for the trading of timber and wine. In the Middle Ages it was the main base for the Byzantine fleet. Venice and the king of Hungary fought over Zadar in the 12th–13th centuries but in 1409, King Ladislaus of Hungary sold his Dalmatian islands and cities to Venice for 100,000 ducats. Zadar became Zara and enjoyed a spell of prosperity; churches and palaces were built. After World War I, Zadar was ceded to Italy by the Treaty of Rapallo, but many Italians left after the forming of Yugoslavia in 1947. Zadar was repeatedly bombed during World War II and suffered considerable damage.



The medieval tower, Bablja Kula, part of the ancient wall

# Land Gate and Walls Koppena yrata

The Land Gate was built in 1543 by the great Veronese architect Michele Sanmicheli as the entrance to the city. The gate has a large central aperture and two smaller openings at the sides, divided by four white stone pilasters supporting four half-columns.

Above the main gate is a relief of St Chrysogonus on horseback and the lion of St Mark, symbol of Venetian rule. Beyond the gate are a few remains of the ancient walls, the former Venetian arsenal, and Liberation Square (Zoranićev trg or Trg Petra Zoranića) with a Roman column in the centre.

On one side of the square stands the medieval tower of Bablja kula. At the base are five fountains (Trg pet bunara), which once supplied water to the city of Zadar.

# Church of St Simeon

Trg Petra Zoranića 7. **Tel** (023) 211 705. **Open** 8:30am-noon Mon-Sat. Originally constructed in Romanesque style, the church was rebuilt after 1632 to house the remains of the saint, which are kept in a silver reliquary. This impressive work, nearly 2m (6 ft) long, was made between 1377 and 1380 by Francesco da Milano and bears reliefs showing scenes of St Simeon's life

# Museum of Ancient Glass Muzei antičkog stakla

Poljana Zemaljskog odbora 1. **Tel** (023) 363 831. **Open** summer: 9am–9pm daily; winter: 9am–4pm Mon–Fri. **W mas-zadar.hr** 

Housed in the restored Cosmacendi Palace, this museum displays a large number of ancient Roman glass objects found on archaeological sites in Zadar and its surroundings.

# People's Square Narodni trg

The Town Hall, which was built in 1934, faces the square, as does the Renaissance City Loggia (Gradska loža) built by Michele Sanmicheli in 1565 as the city courts. It is now used for exhibitions.

Nearby, the 16th-century Town Guard Palace houses the Ethnographic Museum, with collections of costumes and objects from the entire county.



Roman arch forming the Sea Gate

# Sea Gate

This complex construction is the result of rebuilding work carried out by Michele Sanmicheli in 1573 on a Roman arch dedicated to the Sergi family. On the seaward side is the lion of St Mark and a memorial stone recalling the Battle of Lepanto (1571). On the inner side of the gate is a stone commemorating Pope Alexander III's visit in 1177.

# Church of St Chrysogonus

Poljana pape Aleksandra III.

Closed for restoration

Prior to AD 1000 a church and monastery were built by Benedictines on the site of the Roman market. While the church, rebuilt in 1175, has survived with few alterations, the monastery was destroyed in World War II. At the height of the monastery's splendour it possessed a rich library and a scriptorium, famous for its transcribed and illuminated works. The three-aisle church,



Church of St Chrysogonus

divided by columns (salvaged from a previous building). has a simple Romanesque appearance, except for the Baroque main altar with statues of Zadar's four patron saints. Chrysogonus Zoilus Simeon and Anastasia. The apse is the best-preserved part, with some 13th-century frescoes and a Romanesque crucifix on the altar

### M Archaeological Museum Arheološki muzei

Trg opatice Čike 1. Tel (023) 250 516. Open Jan-Mar: 9am-2pm Mon-Sat: Apr. May & Oct: 9am-3pm Mon-Sat: Jun-Sep: 9am-9pm daily: Nov & Dec: 9am-2pm Mon-Sat.



This museum is housed in a building near the old Roman Forum. Its collection contains objects that date from prehistory all the way to recent times, and that come from the entire 7adar area and the islands. Of particular interest is glass from the Roman period. and the early Christian and medieval liturgical objects.



Renaissance facade of the Church of St Mary

### The Church of St Mary and Museum of Sacred Art Sv. Marija i Zlato i srebro Zadra

Tra opatice Čike 1 Tel (023) 250 496. Open summer: 10am-1pm, 6-8pm Mon-Sat. 10am-noon Sun: winter: 10am-12.30pm, 5-6.30pm Mon-Sat. 🔊 🌠 🎮

On one side of the square called Poliana pape Ivana Pavla II

stands a tall. Romanesque bell tower, built for King Koloman in 1105 and the Church of St Mary

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Map C4. 73 92.000. 7 City: Illie Smilianića 5. (023) 212 222: Mihe Klaića 1. (023) 316 166. Regional: Sv. Leopolda Mandića 1. (023) 315 316. Musical evenings at St Donat (Jul & Aug), Summer theatre. w visitzadar.net

### Transport

7emunik 8 km (5 miles) (023) 205 800 🖨 (023) 212 555 A Starčevića 6. (060) 305 305. Jadroliniia: (023) 254 800.

The church, built in 1066, has undergone various alterations

and now has a Renaissance facade The three-aisle interior has a large women's gallery; the stuccowork is from 1744 The former monastery next door is now the Museum of Sacred Art:

on the ground floor are gold pieces; on the

upper floor are paintings and statues, including a fine polyptych by Vittore Carpaccio (1487).

### **7adar Town Centre**

- Land Gate and Walls
- ② Church of St Simeon
- Museum of Ancient Glass
- People's Square
- Sea Gate
- (6) Church of St Chrysogonus
- ② Archaeological Museum
- (8) Church of St Mary and Museum of Sacred Art
- Forum
- (10) Church of St Donat p97
- (1) Cathedral of St Anastasia
- (2) Sea Organ and Greeting to the Sun



0 metres	300
0 yards	300



Sculpture, Museum

of Sacred Art

# ⊞ Forum

The main square of the ancient Roman city of Jadera was built between the 1st century BC and the 3rd century. The forum. 90 m (295 ft) long and 45 m (147 ft) wide was hordered on three sides by porticoes with marble columns. In the present square. Poliana pape Ivana Pavla II. are the foundations of public buildings, including a meeting hall, some of the original paving. several tabernae (rectangularshaped trading areas) and a monumental pillar, used in the Middle Ages as a "pillar of shame"



Romanesque façade of the Cathedral of St Anastasia

# Tathedral of St Anastasia

Forum. **Tel** (023) 251 708.

Open 8am-noon, 5-7pm daily. The magnificent Cathedral of St Anastasia also stands on the site of the Forum. It was founded by the Byzantines in the 9th century and rebuilt in the Romanesque style in the 12-13th centuries. It has a rectangular ground-plan with a large semicircular apse. The harmonious facade with three doors completed in 1324 is divided in half horizontally with the upper part characterized by arches and columns and two splendid rose windows. The main window is Romanesque

and the other is Gothic

The three-aisle interior is divided by two rows of columns and pilasters which support the high arcades. At the sides of the raised presbytery are engraved wooden choir stalls, the work of the Venetian Matteo Moronzoni (early 15th century). The ciborium with four Corinthian columns is decorated with different motifs (1332). Underneath is a small sarcophagus containing the remains of St Anastasia, dating from the 9th century.

The altars are mostly Baroque; on one there is a lovely painting by Palma il Giovane. In the



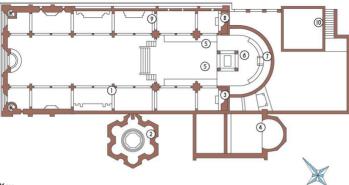
The right-hand altar inside the Cathedral of St Anastasia

right-hand nave is an imposing Baroque altar dedicated to the Holy Sacrament; just beyond is the hexagonal baptistry.

# Sea Organ and Greeting

Designed by architect Nikola Basic, this musical instrument is built into the quayside. Under white stone steps are a set of pipes which produce musical chords naturally as waves push air up through the pipes. Next to it is another installation by the same architect called *Greeting to the Sun*, consisting of 300 glass plates that produce interesting light effects.

### Plan of the Cathedral of St Anastasia



### Key

- Altar of the Holy Sacrament
- ② Baptistry
- 3 Roman pilaster
- 4 Sacristy
- (5) Choir stalls

- Main altar and ciborium
- Bishop's chair
- 8 Chapel of St Anastasia
- Souls of Purgatory altar
- 10 Bell tower



### Zadar: Church of St Donat

Sv. Donat

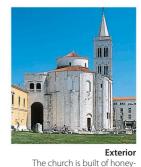
The Church of the Holy Trinity, which later took the name of its founder Bishop Donat, is one of the finest examples of Byzantine architecture in Dalmatia. It was built in the early 9th century on the paving stones of the former Roman Forum and has a circular ground-plan with three circular apses. Inside is a women's gallery which goes all the way around the church and creates an upper storey. St Donat has not been used as a church since 1797, but because of the good acoustics, concerts are often held here.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Forum. (1) (023) 250 516.

Open Apr, May & Oct: 9am–5pm daily; Jun–Sep: 9am–9pm daily; Nov–Mar: by appt.



#### Dome

The cylindrical, conical dome rises in the centre of the church to a height of 27 m (88 ft).

coloured Dalmatian stone, much of which came from the old

> Each of the three apses has blind arches. At one time the altar was situated in the central apse

### The Women's Gallery

The interior of the church has a matroneum, or women's gallery, supported by six pilasters and two Roman columns which border the circular nave and divide the structure into two floors.

# The internal walls are completely bare. Probably the

original decorations, frescoes or mosaics, have been lost.

### Roman Fragments

Stones from the Roman Forum were used for the paving; other Roman material is visible in the walls, entrance and gallery.

# Zadar Archipelago

The Zadar Archipelago is made up of more than 300 islands surrounded by crystal-clear waters. The larger islands are covered in Mediterranean scrub and olive trees. The archipelago is what remains of a mountain chain which once ran parallel to the Velebit mountains, but which is now almost submerged. Only about a dozen of the islands are inhabited, and the small communities live by fishing, farming and rearing animals. There are a few hotels on the larger islands closer to Zadar, and private accommodation can be found on all the others. Daily ferry services link Zadar with the main islands.



Dugi Otok, the largest island in the Zadar archipelago

### **Dugi Otok**

Covering an area of 124 sq km (48 sq miles), this is the largest island in the archipelago. The inhabitants live in about ten villages. Fishing and farming takes place in the northern part of the island and on the flatter areas of the island, while the southern, hillier terrain is given over to sheep farming. The western coast is steep and

desolate but beaches and bays punctuate the eastern coast.

Proximity to Zadar means that since Roman times it has been a popular place for the city nobles to build holiday villas. In the Renaissance period more summer residences were built here, particularly in **Sali**. This is the largest town and port on the island and there are some houses in the flamboyant Gothic style. The Renaissance Church of St Mary has some paintings from the same period by Juraj Čulinović.

The fishing village of Božava, at the island's northernmost point, is also a popular yacht marina. It has a small church, dedicated to St Nicholas, which dates from the 10th century. Inside the church a sculpture depicts Arab saints.

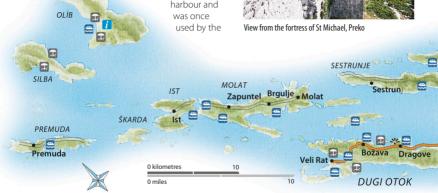
The long bay of Telašćica, to the south, is a natural harbour and was once Venetian fleet. One side ends in a sheer cliff and the other in thick pine woods. This area is being reforested after a disastrous fire in 1995. The southern part of the island has been designated the Telašćica Nature Park (see p100).

#### Ugljan

This lush, green island is 22 km (13 miles) long and covers an area of 50 sq km (19 sq miles). It has a population of 7,600 and the small villages lie along the eastern coast of the island. In the main village, Ugljan, is the Franciscan monastery of St Jerome, built in the 15th century. It has a pretty cloister and the library contains numerous works written in Glapolitic script.

A more newly built village is **Preko**, where the wealthier citizens of Zadar own villas. There are also rooms in private houses available for renting. The village is dominated by the large Venetian fortress of St Michael which stands on a hill 265 m (869 ft) high. A bridge links the island to Pašman







Monastery of SS. Cosmas and Damian in Pašman

### Pašman

This wild, unspoilt island has a population of 3,500, who live in villages on the coast facing the mainland. There are fewer tourists than on Ugljan. The western side is given over to vineyards, while the eastern part has thick maquis right down to the coastline, where there are also some pebble beaches.

South of **Pašman**, a fishing village and the main centre on the island is Tkon an embarkation point for ferries On Mount Čokovac north of Tkon is the Benedictine Monastery of SS Cosmas and Damian (Sv. Kuzma i Damjan). Built in 1125, it became a centre of Glagolitic culture and has a well-stocked library with Glagolitic texts. In the 15th century the church and monastery were rebuilt in the Gothic style when they were taken over by the Franciscan order. The church (14th-15th century) has some good sculptures, including a painted crucifix.

#### Dromuda

This island covers an area of 9 sq km (3 sq miles) and has fewer than 100 inhabitants, all of whom live in the village of Premuda. It is the most isolated of the islands in the archipelago. There are no hotels but visitors can find rooms in private houses.

In Italy, the island is remembered for a naval battle between Italy and Austria which took place on 10 June 1918 during World War I.

The island has beautiful beaches and thick pine woods, and as there are no private cars it is also very peaceful. There are several weekly connections to Zadar.

#### Molat

The three villages on Molat support several hundred people, who depend on fishing and farming. There are two ports: Zapuntel, the main ferry port, and Brgulje, which is used when the main port is inaccessible

For centuries the island belonged to Venice, which fostered the establishment of a community of monks and local people, who set about re-establishing the woods which had disappeared with over-exploitation. An intense reforestation programme has been under way to aid with this.

The church of St Andrew is all that remains of the monastery. There are no hotels on the island but accommodation can be found in private houses in Molat, Zapuntel and Brgulje. There are many coves along the low, jagged coastline.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Map B-C4. Zadar: Sv. Leopolda Mandića 1, (023) 315 316; Dugi Otok: Obala P. Lorinija bb, Sali, (023) 377 094; Ugljan: Šimuna Kožičića Benje 17. Udljan. (023) 288 011.

w ugljan.hr w zadar.hr w dugiotok.hr

### Transport

Harbour master's office: (023) 254 888: Jadroliniia: (023) 254 800.

### Olib

About 700 people live here in the village of Olib, where buildings include several 16th-century houses and a tower. The church of St. Anastasia is from the same period and was once part of a monastery. In the parsonage are manuscripts and sacred books in Glagolitic script, as well as many stone remains, which confirm the presence of a community here in Roman times. The sea is delightful, and rocky cliffs alternate with coves and sandy beaches. Rooms can be found in private houses.



Ruins in the peaceful village of Olib



## Kornati National Park

Nacionalni park Kornati

In 1980 part of the Zadar Archipelago was declared a national park. The name Kornati derives from the name of the main island in the group. Kornat. The park was set up to protect the waters so that marine life might flourish. It measures 36 km (22 miles) in length and 6 km (4 miles) wide and is made up of 89 islands of white stone. Despite there not being any permanent inhabitants, and vegetation appearing to be sparse, flora and fauna are rich: there are some 19,000 olive trees in the park area. The islands are surrounded by clear blue sea. with jagged coastlines, hidden coves and underwater caves.



One of the few houses on the Kornati Islands

### **Exploring Kornati** National Park

The Kornati Islands were the peaks of a mountain chain about 20,000 years ago. When this area was part of the Roman empire, the main islands were holiday resorts, popular with the prosperous inhabitants of Zadar, Beautiful Roman villas with mosaic floors as well as fishponds and baths were built.

During the long period under Venetian rule the islands, which were then covered with rich

vegetation, were used as a base for the Venetian fleet. At present the Kornati Islands belong to the inhabitants of Murter, to the east. who bought them around the end of the 19th century to use as grazing for sheep and goats.

The bare and arid islands are characterized by steep cliffs. stony ground and sinkholes typical of a karst (limestone) landscape. Sheep farming has impoverished the flora of these islands. In fact, the vegetation disappeared when the

shepherds of Murter cut down the trees and burned the scrub in order to grow grass for their livestock, which were left here to graze freely from spring to autumn. Dry-stone walls were built between the plots of land to form nens for the animals

On some of the islands near the coast are small cottages with stables and an outdoor hearth. Many also have a small jetty

The Kornati Islands have become a popular destination for scuba divers and sailors. The marine life is varied with around 350 plant species and 300 animals. Fishing is prohibited throughout the entire Kornati National Park

Besides dozens of rocky outcrops, the islands of Kornat. Levrnaka, Piškera, Lavsa, Kasela and Mana make up the park. West of Levrnaka lies the island of Mala Proversa, which, with the southern part of Dugi Otok (see p98), forms another protected area, the Telašćica Nature Park. The best way to

visit is by sailing boat, and there are organized day trips from Murter, Zadar, Biograd, Vodice. Primošten and Rogoznica.



DUGI OTOK The Kornati Islands MALA PROVERSA SVRŠATA KORNAT TELAŠĆICA Lučica Vrulje IFVRNAKA PIŠKERA Key = Path ∩ kilometres Borders of the park 0 miles



Olive trees on the slopes of Statival Bay, on the island of Kornat

The island of Kornat is the largest island in the nark There is a small medieval church dedicated to the Virgin Mary here. There is also a look-out tower with the Venetian name of Toreta dating from the 6th century, an example of Byzantine military architecture. Near the old village of Vrulie, the main village in the archipelago, is **Vela Ploča**, where there is a spectacular chalk cliff leaning at a 40-degree angle over the sea. measuring 200 m (656 ft) long and 150 m (492 ft) high.

### Levrnaka

The island of Levrnaka is one of the largest and highest islands of Kornati National Park, with

two peaks, Veli Vrh and Svirac, which, at 117 m (380 ft) and 94 m (310 ft) respectively, afford stunning views of almost the entire Kornati archipelago. Also on Levrnaka is Lojena, the only sandy beach of the Kornati park. located in a lovely sheltered bay.

#### Lavsa

This island with its pretty bays and coves is a popular tourist destination. The ruins of a partly submerged wall are all that remain of an ancient Roman salt works

#### Piškera

There are also traces of Roman presence in Piškera. Once there was a village here with about 50 houses, a warehouse for fish

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Man (4 **1** (022) 435 740. w np-kornati.hr

### Transport

from Biograd, Murter Primošten Rogoznica Vodice Zadar (Organized trips only)

and a tower for the tax collector The houses and tower are now almost all in ruins. However, the church from 1560 is still standing.

#### Svršata

On the small island of Syršata there are two walls that go down to the sea and continue into the water, where they join up with another wall. It is thought that this square tank was a Roman construction for keeping fish fresh.

#### Mana

The island of Mana is famous for its semicircular cliffs. Spray from the waves breaking on the cliffs can reach up to a height of 40 m (131 ft). On top of the cliffs are the ruins of a Greek-style fishing village, built for the film The Ragina Sea in 1961.

### The Kornati Islands by Boat

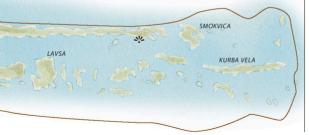
The archipelago of the Kornati Islands is a real paradise for sailors. These are beautiful islands where the only sounds are those of the sea and the wind. There is only one small port, Piškera, which is open from Easter (March or April) to October: electricity and fresh water are rationed. The natural beauty of the area makes sailing here unforgettable.



Kornati National Park, a paradise for sailing



A typical island of white rock, bare of vegetation



### A Nin

The ancient core of Nin lies in a natural lagoon, a sheltered position that made it an attractive choice for settlement. One of its oldest sources of income was salt-harvesting, and today its sandy beaches and warm, shallow waters for bathing make it a popular holiday destination.

Nin's many archaeological sites have enabled the town's past to be traced from prehistory through the Liburnian, Roman and early Christian times to its period of greatest glory, in the 9th–12th centuries, when it was both a bishopric and royal Croatian town. Nin's finest ponuments date from this time.

Within the town walls is the 9th-century Church of the **Holy Cross** (Sv. Križ), a fine example of pre-Romanesque churches in typical Croatian style (see p26). The church's harmony and beauty encapsulate the spirituality of the era. Its windows are positioned to act as a kind of calendar by which, according to the sun's rays, the exact date of the equinox and solstice can be determined.

Nearby is the former
Cathedral of **St Anselm**(Sv. Anselm), where the kings of Croatia were crowned. The first cathedral in Croatia, it has a rich treasury with silver reliquaries from the 9th to 15th centuries. Near the church is a statue by Ivan Meštrović of Bishop Gregory of Nin, by Ivan Meštrović

promoter and defender of the Glagolitic script that enabled the



The small Romanesque Church of St Mary in Liubač, near Nin

use of the Croatian language in liturgy. The statue is said to grant wishes to those who rub its big toe. Also inside the walls is the 12th-century Church of **St Ambrose** (Sv. Ambroz), built in the Romanesque style with Gothic additions

In Kraljevac Square is the small but interesting **Museum** of Nin Antiquities.

f Church of the Holy Cross, of St Anselm and of St Ambrose Open daily (St Anselm & St Ambrose for Mass only).

III Museum of Nin Antiquities
Trg Kraljevac 8. Tel (023) 264 160.
Open May: 9am-2pm Mon-Sat; Junmid-Jul & mid-Aug-Sep: 9am-9pm
daily; mid-Jul-mid-Aug: 9am-10pm

daily; Oct–Apr: 9am–2pm by appt. w amzd.hr

### Environs

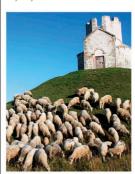
A short way southwest of Nin stands the Church of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikola) in Prahulje. This unusual building, constructed on an Illyrian tumulus, has a dome with an octagonal watch tower from the 12th century, added fi during the Turkish invasion. The church is built on a trefoil plan

and once held inscriptions and tombs of members of the court

of Princes Višeslav and Branimir, now in the archaeological museum in Zadar. The church is a fine example of primitive Croatian art.

Ljubač is 13 km (8 miles) northeast of Nin and the site of some ruins: the wall, central buildings and towers of the medieval Castrum Jubae, built by the Templar Knights. It fell into ruin after the order was dissolved. Still standing is the 12th-century Romanesque Church of St Marcela, noted for its three semicircular apses. Near the village is the small church of St John from the Middle Ages.

Thurch of St Nicholas
Open St Nicholas' Day and St Mark's
Day only.



Church of St Nicholas in Prahulje, not far from Nin



The salt works on Pag, of Roman origin, still in use today

### A Land of Salt Works

Salt trading was a very lucrative business in the Middle Ages. Three areas were suitable for its production in the upper Adriatic: the mouth of the River Dragonja, today the border between Slovenia and Croatia, the bay of Pag, and the lowlands around Nin. The salt works of Pag, of Roman origin, which were protected by two ranges of hills, were the largest and most profitable, and were once owned by Nin. The possession of these salt flats, still profitable today, has been the cause of various wars through history.

### A Paklenica National Park

Nacionalni nark Paklenica

Map C4. The Stariorad Paklenica, (023). 369 202 369 155 Open Apr-Oct. 6am-8:30pm daily: Nov-Mar-7am-3pm daily. w paklenica.hr

Situated in the imposing Velebit massif, Paklenica National Park was founded in 1949 The entrance is in Starigrad Paklenica - look out for a road sign on the Magistrala coastal road (F65).

The park covers an area of 95 sa km (41 sa miles), and is formed by two gorges, Velika Paklenica (Big Paklenica) and Mala Paklenica (Small Paklenica) which cut into the limestone mountains. The gorges were eroded by two rivers and parts of the canyon walls are more than 400 m (1.312 ft) high.

Deep in the cliffs of Velika Paklenica Canyon, there is an extensive system of underground tunnels built by the Yugoslav army in the 20th century. The tunnels are presently being renovated as the park administration intend to transform them into a multi-purpose visitor centre.

The rock faces are pierced by numerous caves, but they are not easily accessible. Only the Manita cave can be visited. accompanied by a quide. The bare rock faces of Velika Paklenica are popular with rock



Rugged landscape of Paklenica National Park

climbers. High up, maiestic birds of prev make their nests. in an ideal habitat for breeding Golden eagles, short-toed eagles and especially peregrine falcons can be seen here. In the forests there are bears, wild boar, foxes, roebucks and hares. A path in the valley penetrates far into the interior of the park to a cliff

edge where there is a magnificent view of the wooded Vaganski Vrh mountain the highest in the Velehit chain

The **Velebit** mountain **many birds of prev in the park** Ramići and Parići. chain is nearly 150 km (93 miles) long. The terrain

is karst (limestone) with many sink holes and plateaux separated by deep fissures. In 1978 UNESCO listed Velebit as a biological reserve for humanity with the aim of protecting this wild environment, with its 2,000 plant species and numerous colonies of large birds of prev. The kukovi strange, impressive rock formations sculpted by wind and water - are also protected.

Hiking and mountain biking are other popular activities in the park and in summer visitors can stay overnight in the Mountain Hut, located

> on the banks of Velika Paklenica creek or in the villages of A good camp

site is also situated next to a pebble beach. Along the creek there are 15 disused water mills, still in good condition. which can be visited during the summer

Griffon vulture, one of the



One of the paths leading into Paklenica National Park

# Pag

The island of Pag is 68 km (42 miles) long and has two mountain chains running parallel to the coast: at the southern end cliffs frame a deep bay with numerous inlets. The island was inhabited in the Neolithic Age, and was occupied by the Liburnians in around 1200 BC. When Dalmatia was conquered by Publius Cornelius Scipio in the 1st century AD, the Romans built the town of Cissa and the fortified port of Navalia here. In the Imperial period, villas were built and some mosaic floors and an aqueduct still survive. The Slavs settled in Pag in the 6th century and became sheep farmers. After 1000 AD Zadar and Rab fought over the island to gain control of the salt pans (see p102). When Cissa was destroyed by the inhabitants of Zadar, the islanders chose a new location for a town, Stari Pag, which was fortified by the Venetians in 1192.



The dry, barren east-facing coast, swept by the bora wind

### **Exploring Pag**

The island, connected by a bridge to the Magistrala coast road (E65) at its eastern tip, near Miškovići, is dry and barren, with only a few areas cultivated with vines and olive trees. The coastline facing the mainland, rocky and jagged and white in

colour, is exposed to the bora wind and bears little vegetation. The typical dry-stone walls were built to protect the land from the wind and to separate the flocks of sheep belonging to different farmers. The southwest coast is a little flatter with some small beaches. Here the land is



Sheep grazing on Pag

covered in maquis, olive groves and aromatic herbs, particularly sage. As well as the production of olive oil and a distinctive wine called Žutica, sheep farming is one of the main occupations on the island. Pag is famous for its sheep's cheese (paški sir), which has a distinctive taste thanks to the aromatic herbs in the grazing. The cheeses are coated with olive oil, and undergo lengthy maturation.

### Pag Town

The small main island town occupies a sheltered bay facing the mainland. It was granted the status of a free town by King Bela IV in 1244, but rivalry with Zadar brought about its destruction. The walls, the castle, a monastery and the Church of St Mary in the Old Town are in ruins. In 1409, Pag came definitively under the rule of Venice.

In 1443 the Venetian rulers, with the assistance of local



### Lace, Symbol of the Traditions of Pag

Tynical pag lace

Pag is renowned for its clean waters and its delicious sheep's cheese, but it is also well-known for its lace. For centuries this lace has been created by the patient hands of the women of the island who in warm weather sit by their doorsteps intent on creating this intricate lace Made using a special stitch, the lace is used to decorate. blouses bedlinen altar cloths and table centrepieces Some decades ago a school was established here to train.

new lacemakers. A collection of antique lace was left to the school. by former lacemakers and the examples are used as models. Lace is sold here and some of the rooms are set up as a museum.



Skrivanat Tower in the Old Town, Pag

nobles, entrusted the design of a new town to the famous architect Jurai Dalmatinac (Giorgio Orsini) It took several decades to build what is now the present-day Pag.

Venetian rule brought a long period of peace and prosperity. bolstered by the income from the productive salt works. Between the 15th and 18th centuries, important public buildings and a parish church, locally called the cathedral, were built.

The town has preserved its original structure with two main roads intersecting in the main square, and minor roads running parallel.

The high walls with eight towers and four gates were demolished at the end of the 19th century, but some traces (a gate and two hastions) still remain. The 15th-century Duke's Palace (Kneževa Palača), which has been altered and the unfinished Rishon's

Palace by Juraj Dalmatinac face the main square.

A monument to Dalmatinac by Ivan Meštrović and the Church of St Mary of the Assumption (1443-1448) stand in the same square. The church is a blend of Romanesque and Gothic, with three aisles divided by white stone columns with carved capitals. The facade has a rose window and there is a lunette above the door. Numerous precious works of art are preserved here, including a wooden 12th-century crucifix. a Virgin of the Rosary by Giovanni Battista Pittoni, an organ, and a treasurv.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Map C4. 5 8.400. Pag: Od šnitala 2 (023) 611 286: Novalia: Tra Briščić 1 (053) 661 404: Karlobag: Trg dr. Tuđmana 2. (053) 694 251 All ace exhibition (summer): Carnival of Pag (Feb & last weekend in Jul)

w tzgpag.hr w tz-novalja.hr

w tz-karlobag.hr

## Transport Prizna-Žiglien, Pag. Novalia

Located at the beginning of the narrow peninsula of Lun. Novalia is the second town on the island. It makes its living entirely from tourism thanks to its heach. In the centre of the town are the remains of an early Christian basilica and a pre-Romanesque church dating from the 9th-10th centuries.

A ferry service connects the island to the mainland, running from Novalja to Prizna.

#### **Environs**

Boat excursions to Pag leave from Karlobag on the mainland Karlobag lies in a pretty bay and takes its name from the fortress that the Archduke of Austria Charles of Habsburg, built in 1579 on the site of a village destroyed by the Turks.

The fortress lost its importance after the Turkish threat had passed and it was eventually abandoned. Its attractive stones were then salvaged and used to build the houses in the village. Still visible are some of the massive walls and a monastery, which has a famous library and a church.





The harsh landscape, characteristic of the island of Pag

## Krka National Park

Nacionalni park Krka

The park covers an area of 109 sq km (42 sq miles) and was established in 1985 to protect the middle and lower stretches of the River Krka, which flow into the bay of Šibenik. The source of the river is near Knin, and the river begins its journey of 75 km (47 miles) inside a canyon on the limestone plateau behind Šibenik. It finally spills over into the spectacular Roški slap and Skradinski buk waterfalls, forming a series of lakes and rapids surrounded by vegetation. The bird life in the park is very varied.



### Monastery of Visovac

In the middle of the lake is the monastery of Visovac. It was founded by Franciscans in 1445 who were ioined by Franciscans from Bosnia in 1576. They brought books, illuminated manuscripts and sacred vestments with them

Đevrske

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Smrdelie



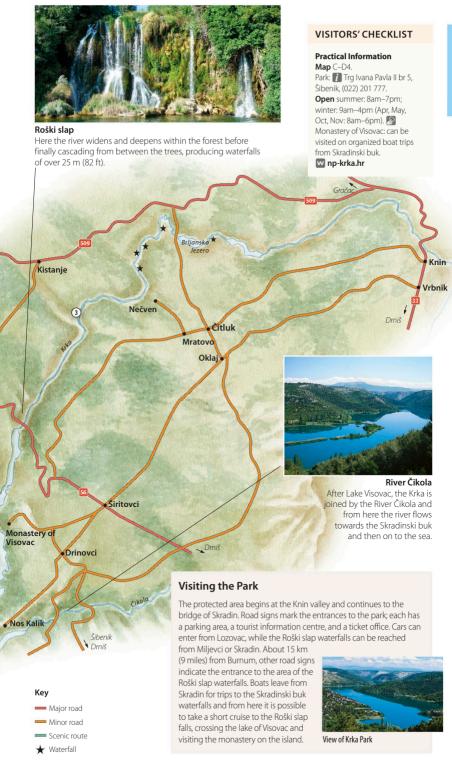
#### Skradin

Once a settlement of Illyrian and Liburnian tribes, then a Roman town. Skradin was a bishop's see from the 6th century. It is one of the main access points to the park: boats go upriver from here to the waterfalls

### KEY

- (1) The lower basin becomes a pool of emerald-green water in the summer and is an attractive place to sunbathe or picnic.
- (2) Around the lake families of earets and night herons can be seen perched on the branches of the willows or hidden among the reeds. About 200 species of bird have been counted here
- (3) Krka monastery was first mentioned in 1402
- (4) Lake Visovac is at the heart of the park. After the waterfalls, the river flows through a narrow valley and then widens to form the lake. Some stretches of the banks are steep and others hilly with oak woods.
- (5) Skradinski buk is an impressive waterfall that cascades from a height of 45 m (147 ft) down 17 steps over a distance of 800 m (2,624 ft). Some of the park paths, sprayed by the falls, pass next to what is one of the most spectacular natural displays in Croatia.





## Sihenik

Located alongside the mouth of the river Krka, this picturesque city, with its steep streets and arched passages, is a joy to explore. It is first documented in 1066 as Castrum Sebenici, when King Petar Krešimir IV described it as a triangular fortified town. Between 1412 and 1797, it was ruled by the Venetians, and the old centre acquired grand buildings and three large forts as well as bastions on the island of St Nicholas. It was a prosperous time and Sibenik became one of the liveliest cultural centres in Renaissance Croatia. Venetian rule gave way to a brief period of French occupation until Austria took over and ruled until 1917. The war during the 1990s brought about the collapse of local industry, and mass unemployment. The situation today is much improved.



Cathedral of St James

### (†) Church of St Francis Sy Erano

Trg Nikole Tomaszea 1, Tel (022) 201 480. Open 7:30am-7:30pm daily. Along the busy seafront, on the southern edge of the Old Town centre, once stood the Monastery and Church of St Francis, founded in 1229 and destroyed during a raid in 1321. Some capitals, a few statues, and parts of the arches in the cloister remain of the original structure. Towards the middle of the 15th century several new chapels were added on.

The buildings were completely rebuilt in the Baroque style around the middle of the 18th century. The church underwent complete renovation: the wooden ceiling and the sumptuous gilded carved wooden altars were remade, and every wall was decorated with paintings.

Inside, in the first chapel on the left, is a great organ from 1762, made by Petar Nakić. The large cloister has kept its 14thcentury structure and there is a library with manuscripts and liturgical material in the monastery.

### (†) Church of St Rarbara Sv. Barbara

Kralia Tomislava Tel (022) 214 899. Museum: Open May-Oct: 9am-1pm. 5-7pm; Nov-Apr; by appt.

The small Church of St Barbara, behind the Cathedral of St. James was built around the

middle of the 15th century, and conserves parts of an older building. Irregular openings make the facade unusual: the lunette on the main door has a statue of St Nicholas from the workshop of Bonino of Milan (1430). Inside is an altar made by a youthful pupil of Juraj Dalmatinac, Giovanni da Pribislao, who was obliged to match another altar which had been saved from the previous church

The church also houses a rich and interesting collection of religious art, with paintings, sculptures and illuminated texts dating from the 14th to the 16th centuries

### IIII Count's Palace - Civic Museum

Muzej grada Šibenika

Gradska vrata 3. Tel (022) 213 880. Open 10am-9pm Tue-Sat.

This palace takes its name from the Venetian Count Niccolò Marcello who built it in the 12th-13th century. It was the Venetian governor's residence

and is now a Civic Museum. This late-Renaissance building houses coin collections archaeological finds from the Neolithic to Roman periods. tomb finds early Croatian sculptures (7th-9th centuries) and a rich archive of historical documents about the city and its territory, many from the medieval period. There is a statue of the count (1609–11) on the facade by the entrance.

### (†) Cathedral of St James Katedrala sv. Jakova See pp110-11.

### ⊞ Old Loggia Gradska loža

Tra Republike Hrvatske In front of the cathedral's Door of Lions stands the Old Loggia formerly the seat of the city council, built between 1532 and 1543 to a design by Michele Sanmicheli, and restored after it was damaged during World War II.

This is a two-storev structure: the ground floor is an open portico with nine large arches. the upper floor is a loggia, with a halustrade



The 16th-century Old Loggia, designed by Michele Sanmicheli

### Medieval Mediterranean Garden of St Lawrence Monastery (MMG) Srednjovjekovni samostanski mediteranski vrt sv. Lovre (SSMV)

Trg Republike Hrvatske 4. **Tel** (022) 212 515. Open summer: 8am-11pm daily; winter: 9am-4pm daily.

Maintained by the children of a local high school, this garden is one of Šibenek's most popular attractions. The MMG follows a medieval design and has a varied assortment of flowers. herbs and plants that create a dazzling combination of colours. Capers have been planted in the



Medieval Mediterranean Garden of St Lawrence Monastery (MMG)

gaps of the stone walls as a homage to Jurai Dalmatinac. who is believed to have been the first to bring them to Šibenek.

### Fort of St Michael Tvrđava sv. Mihovila

(022) 213 880 (Civic Museum) The restored fort is of medieval origins. It was destroyed after liahtning struck the powder magazine. When it was rebuilt, account was taken of the city's altered defence needs, and the towers were omitted. Its present appearance dates from the 16th-17th centuries. Formerly known as St Anne, it offers magnificent views over the islands.

### Fort of St John Tvrđava sv. Ivan

(022) 212 075

Standing on a hill 115 m (410 ft) high, the fort was built in 1646 in a star shape after the city was attacked by the Turks in 1649

#### Barone Fortress \_\_ Tvrđava Barone

(022) 213 880

The third large fort, called Barone Fortress, or Šubićevac, was constructed rapidly in 1646, in the face of an imminent Turkish attack The fort in fact greatly contributed to the defeat of the Turks in 1647. After a long siege, large parts of it had to be rebuilt.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Map D5 83 37 000 11 Local: Ulica Fausta Vrančića 18. (022) 212 075: Regional: Fra N Ružića bb (022) 219 072

w sibenik-tourism.hr

### Transport

Snlit 97 km (60 miles) (022) 333 699. R Draga 44. (060) 368 368, (022) 216 066

Dr. F. Tudmana 7, (022) 213 468.

The present structure dates from the middle of the 17th century and a pretty garden is laid out in front of the bastions.

### Fort of St Nicholas Tyrđava sy Nikola

(022) 212 075

The fort was planned by the Italian architect Michele Sanmicheli and built between 1540 and 1547 on a cliff overlooking the city. It is a fine example of military architecture. both for its strength and for the beauty of the decorations above the entrance gate in the apertures, in the rooms, and along the corridors. The fort was often used as a prison.

### Šibenik City Centre

- Church of St Francis
- Church of St Barbara
- Count's Palace Civic Museum
- (4) Cathedral of St James pp110-11
- Old Loggia
- Medieval Mediterranean Garden of St Lawrence Monastery (MMG)
- 7) Fort of St Michael



0 metres 0 yards



# **Šibenik: Cathedral of St James**

Katedrala sv. Jakova

It took Croatian and international experts several years to restore Šibenik's cathedral after its shelling in 1991. Its original construction by renowned Dalmatian and Italian artists began in 1432 and was completed in 1555. The original project was entrusted to the Venetian Antonio Dalle Masegne, who built the lower Gothic level. His successor, Juraj Dalmatinac (see p24), designed the upper Renaissance part of the sculptures by the doors, the 72 faces on the outside of the apse, many of the capitals, the tomb of Juraj Šižgorić and, along with Andrija Aleši, the beautiful baptistry. On Dalmatinac's death in 1475, the work was continued by Nikola Firentinac, who built the splendid presbytery with the choir, the dome, the galleries and vaulted roof. The Adam and Eve by the Door of Lions are by Bonino of Milan.



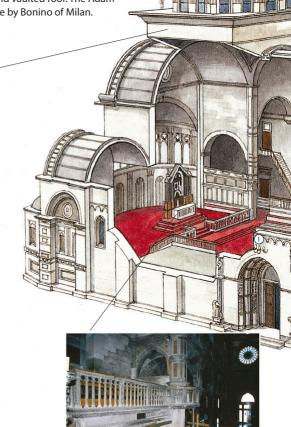
#### Transept

The transept is surmounted with a square structure below the dome; on three sides is an arch bearing a statue. The stones were worked in such a way that they fitted together without the need for mortar.

#### KEY

- ① The exterior is decorated with 72 sculpted human faces on the cornice, the work of Juraj Dalmatinac and his assistants.
- **② The Dome**, a unique structure built of interlocking slabs of stone, was badly damaged in 1991.
- **3** The barrelled roof, built, like the rest of the cathedral, entirely in local stone, is a tribute to the great technical skill of the stone-cutters.
- 4 The Gothic doorway is

decorated with groups of sculptures of saints ascending the arch, which is framed by two spires.



★ Presbytery

The finely worked stone stalls were made by Juraj Dalmatinac and Nikola Firentinac. Other sculpted reliefs adorn the upper parts.



### ★ Baptistry

At the end of the right aisle is an impressive baptistry with many statues and reliefs sculpted by Juraj Dalmatinac, Nikola Firentinac and Andrija Aleši. The fine baptismal font is supported by three putti.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Tra Republike Hrvatske 1. Tel (022) 214 418. Open daily. & w sibenik.hr/vodic-eng/

sibenik/kulturno povijesna bastina2.asp



### Interior

The three-aisle interior is divided by columns with carved capitals supporting pointed arches. The tall central nave has a frieze and women's gallery.

### O Drniš

Map D4. ⚠ 3,400. ☑ Šibenik, 25 km (15 miles), (022) 333 699. Šibenik, (022) 216 066. ☑ Domovinskog rata 5, (022) 888 619. ☑ tz-drnis.hr

The town of Drniš first appears in documents towards the end of the 15th century, as the site of a fort built to stop a Turkish invasion, at the point where the River Čikola cuts into the valley and flows down towards Šihenik

In 1526 the fort was captured and enlarged by the Turks, who made it one of their outposts. A village with a mosque and baths developed around the fort, but during the wars hetween Venice and the Ottoman empire from 1640 to 1650, the fort and the village were almost entirely destroyed by the Venetians. In the reconstruction that followed the mosque was remodelled and became the Church of St Anthony. The minaret became the bell tower of the church of St Roch. Serbs populated the town and it became part of the Krajina territory.

Along the road from Drniš to Šibenik, the ruins of defence structures with high walls and a tower can be seen.

#### **Environs**

Some 9 km (5 miles) east of Drniš is the village of **Otavice**, the birthplace of Ivan Meštrović's parents. The great sculptor (see p163) built the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer here for himself and his family. It is simply designed in the form of a stone cube with a shallow dome



Church of the Most Holy Redeemer in Otavice, near Drniš

### **©** Knin

Map D4. № 12,000. 🗭 (022) 663 722.

i Dr. Franje Tuđmana 24, (022) 664
822. W tz-knin.hr

A town on the main road from Zagreb to Split, Knin has long played an important role in Dalmatia's history. It occupies a strategic position on the plateau, and there have been defences of some kind here since prehistoric times. In the 10th century, when the town was known as Ad Tenen, the Fort of Knin was built

here on Mount Spas. It was used by reigning Croat monarchs, who often stayed in the nearby town of Biskupija and held coronations here.

Early in the 11th century Knin became a bishopric and the residence of several aristocratic Croatian families. Occupied by the Turks in the early 16th century, in 1688 Knin fell to the Venetians

The Morlachs, in the pay of Venice, distinguished themselves in the battle to retake the fort by scaling the walls. Afterwards they rebuilt the fort and settled in the town

In 1991, the Serbian army used the fort when most of the inhabitants of Croat origin were forced out. It became a focus for the Serb rebellion and the Republic of the Serb Krajina, of which Knin was the capital, was created. In August 1995 the territory was returned to the Croats

#### **Environs**

About 5 km (3 miles) away is **Biskupija**, once known as the "Field of five churches", for its religious buildings (9th–11th centuries) attended by the Croat kings. King Zvonimir was killed here by Croat nobles who did not accept his allegiance to the pope. By the main building is a church designed by Ivan Meštrović and frescoed by Jozo Kljaković.



Imposing Fort of Knin, on Mount Spas

### Sini

Map D5 M 11 500 🖨 Split 👼 Split Put Petrovca 12. (021) 826 352. Madonna of Sini Festival (Aug): Siniska alka iousting tournament (1st Sun Aug). w visitsini.com

On the Cetina plateau the Romans founded Aequum the present-day Čitluk, on the road towards Bosnia, but the Avars and Slavs forced the inhabitants to abandon the town and move to a nearby hill called Castrum Zvn which. once fortified, was safer and easier to defend

In the 14th century, some Franciscan monks fleeing Bosnia came here and built a Franciscan Monastery (Franjevački samostan) and a church.

The town by now called Sini was captured by the Turks in 1513 and remained in their possession until 1686 when it was liberated by the Venetians. The star-shaped Kamičak Fort. was built with a tall observation tower, enabling Sini horsemen to mount a surprise attack on Ottoman troops attempting to recapture the town in 1715 In gratitude to the Miraculous Madonna for their victory, the townspeople gave her image a golden crown.

This historical event is commemorated every year on the first Sunday in August with a jousting tournament (Sinjska alka), when expert riders take part in a competition to capture a shield, the symbol of victory. The Museum of Siniska alka tells the story of this tournament, a regional tradition that has taken place since the early 18th century.

The Franciscan church, which has been rebuilt at various times, is a popular pilgrimage site. The monastery has been renovated and some of the rooms house archaeological finds from ancient Aeguum.

f Franciscan Monastery A Stepinca 1. Tel (021) 707 010. Open by appt only.

IIII Museum of Sinjska alka Put Petrovca 12. Tel (021) 444 730. Open 9am-5pm Tue-Sun. W alka.hr



Primošten, once an island but now linked to the mainland

### @ Klic

Map D5. 🚮 2.300. 🖨 Split. 👼 Split. Megdan 57, (021) 240 578. w tzo-klis htnet hr

The little village of Klis is dominated by an imposing Fort which consists of three concentric walls. It was founded by the Romans on a hill above a mountain pass which led from the plateau onto the plain. The Venetians strengthened the fort and enlisted the Uskoks to help fight off the Turks, who however finally captured it in 1537 The Turks enlarged the fort. building a mosque and a minaret and from here they menaced the city of Split until 1648 when they were driven off by Venetian troops. The fort was in use until the Austrians took over. The mosque was turned into a church and the minaret was demolished

The town's restaurants are particularly known for their excellent spit-roasted lamb.



Fort of Klis, the scene of many bloody battles

### Primošten

Map D5. 🔼 1,800. 🖳 Split. 📼 Split, (021) 329 180. Marina. (022) 570 068. Trg biskupa J. Arnerića 2. (022) 571 111. Gospe od Loreta (May): Summer Carnival (Jun): Primoštenske užance (Aug). w tz-primosten.hr

Originally an isolated island. Primošten is now connected to the mainland by a bridge and a causeway. The name Primošten means "brought closer by a bridge". It was inhabited in prehistoric times, and was settled by Bosnian refugees fleeing from the Turks Under Venetian rule walls were built around the town The top of the town is dominated by the Church of St George, built in the late 15th century and enlarged around 1760. Inside is an icon of the Virgin on a silver panel, and a Baroque altar.

A resort with pebbly beaches and bike trails, Primošten is also famous for its vineyards (see p135) and a rich red wine called Babić

### Marina

Map D5. 🔼 1,000. 📝 Trg Stiepana Radića 1. (021) 889 015.

Situated in the bay of the same name. Marina is a small. picturesque Dalmatian town and has a marina and a pretty beach. The village, surrounded by top-quality olive groves, has been inhabited since the 15th century. Nearby, in a naturally protected inlet, is the Yachting Sport Agana marina, Also located in the Riviera Marina region are the small towns of Vinišće, Poljica and Sevid. These are all rich in archaeological sites.

## **©** Trogir

Set on a small island just off the mainland, Trogir is one of the jewels of the Dalmatian coast, with many splendid monuments. The Greeks of Issa (now Vis) first settled here in the 3rd century BC, when they founded the fortified town of Tragyrion (island of goats) which became Tragurium under the Romans in 48 BC. In the Middle Ages Trogir was protected by the Byzantine fleet, but in 1123 it was attacked and destroyed by the Saracens, and abandoned by the few surviving inhabitants. It revived again 70 years later and a period of artistic growth ensued, first under the kings of Hungary and, from 1420, under Venetian rule. In 1997 Trogir was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Seafront of Trogir, with Kamerlengo Castle in the distance

Most of the old historic centre of the town is on an island and is encircled by a wall with two gates. A bridge now joins the island to the mainland and another links it to the island of Čiovo. Tourism is important to the town: ice-cream parlours, restaurants and pizzerias line the small squares. The main public and religious monuments, and other important buildings, have been the subject of restoration work.

# Land Gate Sieverna vrata

Rebuilt in the 17th century, this gate was made from a tall doorway in pale rusticated stone, with grooves which once supported a drawbridge. On the cornice above the arch once stood the lion of St Mark and, above that, on a pedestal, stands a statue of the Blessed John of Trogir (Sv. Ivan Trogirski), one of the town's patron saints.

# Civic Museum Muzej grada Trogira

Gradska vrata 4. Tel (021) 881 406.
Open Jun & Sep: 9am-noon, 5–8pm
Mon–Sat; Jul & Aug: 9am-noon,
6–9pm daily; Oct–May: 9am–2pm
Mon–Fri.

On the other side of the Land Gate is the Baroque Garagnin Fanfogna Palace, now the Civic Museum, with 18thcentury furnishings. There are archaeological collections, documents and antique clothes linked to the town's history.

# Stafileo Palace Palača Stafileo

Matije Gupca 20. Closed to the public. Stafileo Palace was built in the late 15th century. A series of five windows in Venetian Gothic style punctuates each of the two floors, the openings framed by pillars, capitals and carved arches. Around the arches are reliefs of flowers and leaves. The design is attributed to the school of Juraj Dalmatinac, who worked for many years in Troqir.

# Cathedral of St Lawrence

Trg Ivana Pavla II. **Tel** (091) 531 4754. **Open** mid-May–Oct: 9am–8pm; Nov–mid-May: by appt.

The cathedral stands on the site of an ancient church destroyed by the Saracens. Construction started in 1193, but was prolonged for decades and involved dozens of artists. The three-aisle building has three semicircular apses: the central nave is higher than the side aisles from which it is divided by eight columns.

There are two entrances. The side door, known as "the count's", is very simple, and dated 1213. The other entrance is a magnificent Romanesque door under an atrium, to the right of which stands a beautiful Gothic bell tower built between the late 14th century and the beginning of the 17th century. This door was carved in around 1240 by the Dalmatian sculptor Master Radovan (see p24), and is the finest expression of Romanesque sculpture to be found in Dalmatia. Two stone lions support statues of Adam. and Eve either side of the door Next to them are pilasters depicting saints in Byzantine style. Scenes of the different months of the year are carved on the middle pilasters.

Above the door, in the large lunette, is a relief of the Nativity and in the semicircles are episodes from the life of Jesus. The door is enclosed under a sloping roof with a corbel at the top with a statue of St Lawrence. In the atrium is a baptistry designed by Andrija Aleši in around 1460 with a relief of the Baptism of Christ.



The intricate Romanesque door of the Cathedral of St Lawrence



The cathedral of St Lawrence dominates the square

The church interior contains an octagonal stone pulpit from the 13th century built and sculpted by Mauro, a choir with wooden stalls inlaid by Ivan Budislavić towards the mid-15th century and a ciborium on the main altar with sculptures depicting the Annunciation. On the altars are paintings by Palma il Giovane and Padovanino

Along the left aisle is the chapel of the Blessed Orsini, a masterpiece by Nikola Firentinac and Andriia Aleši made in 1468-72, with 12 statues of the apostles in shell-shaped niches and, in

the centre, the sarcophagus of the Blessed Orsini the first bishop of Trogir. The sculptures are by Nikola Firentinac Andrija Aleši and Ivan Duknović

In the sacristy are paintings by Salvator Rosa and Gentile Bellini, cabinets carved by Graur Vidov and a Treasury with many gold pieces.

religuaries and paintings dating from the 17th century.

The tall bell tower was built in the 14th century, but was partly destroyed during the wars early in the following century and only the ground floor remains of the original building. When Trogir became part of Venetian territory, the bell tower was rebuilt. The first floor, with a balustrade by Matej Gojković (1422), is in the Gothic style. with two narrow mullioned windows with a trefoil. surmounted by blind arches. The second level has two tall

(1) Church of St Dominic (12) Kamerlengo Castle

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information Map D5, 🔼 10,500, 📝 Trg Ivana

Pavla II 1. (021) 885 628. w tztrogir.hr

### Transport

Split Airport, 7 km (5 miles) Split 30 km (18 miles) (021) 881 405 (021) 881 508

windows on each side: the north and south walls have mullioned windows with four trefoil eyes, those on the east and west walls are surmounted by fretwork grilles, with columns and capitals at the centre and corners, giving a feeling of lightness to the entire floor Recent studies attribute this work to the Italian sculptor Lorenzo Pincino, who worked in Trogir and Dalmatia for many vears, with the assistance of local craftsmen.

The third storey, from the late 16th century, was built by the sculptor Trifun Bokanić and has large arched openings.

### **Trogir Town Centre**

- Land Gate
- Civic Museum
- 3 Stafileo Palace

- Town Hall
- Loggia and Clock Tower
- Church of St John the Baptist





100

0 yards

### **Exploring Trogir**

A good time to visit Trogir is the late spring or early autumn, when the narrow streets, flanked by ancient stone houses, are not so busy with summer visitors, and there is space to stop and admire the ingenious architectural details that make this island so fascinating. A carved doorway, a coat of arms or a mullioned window may decorate the façade of a building; the entrance to a courtyard may offer glimpses of scented gardens. These are all indications of a once widespread prosperity and also evidence of Trogir's cultural past, when it was an important centre for the arts. After many years of hardship and neglect, the town has been restored to its former glory.



A Renaissance well in the courtyard of Čipiko Palace

# **Čipiko Palace**Palača Čipiko

Gradska ulica. **Closed** to the public, except courtyard.

An inscription indicates 1457 as the year of completion of the beautiful Čipiko Palace, built for Trogir's most illustrious family. Over a Renaissance doorway, distinguished by its columns with capitals, is a shell decoration above a finely worked cornice.

The first floor has a mullioned window with a balustrade in light-coloured stone. In the centre, two columns with capitals support pointed arches and at the ends of the window are two thin pilasters surmounted by capitals with spiral decorations. Between the arches are four sculptures of angels. Two

central ones hold a scroll with the coats of arms of the Čipiko family. The second floor lacks a balustrade, and is similar in style to the lower floor, although its decorations are less ornate.

A second door, opening on to a side street, has a complex structure. Two fluted door jambs support capitals with carved foliage decoration and a stone cornice with two sculpted lions holding a coat of arms. These are flanked by two sculptures of angels in medallions.

# Town Hall Gradska vijećnica

Tra Ivana Pavla II.

On the eastern side of the square is the Town Hall. This building originates from the 15th century and has three storeys with open arches and a beautiful mullioned window with a balustrade on the upper floor, which was restored in the 19th century.

Numerous coats of arms decorate the façade which has three Renaissance doors framed by projecting stone. The pretty porticoed courtyard is open to the public. However, the interior, which has been altered at various times, has nothing of significant interest.

# Loggia and Clock Tower Gradska loža

Trg Ivana Pavla II. **Open** daily. The Loggia and the Clock Tower face John Paul II Square (Trg Ivana Pavla II). The Loggia has a roof supported by six columns with Roman capitals and dates from the 14th century. On the wall are two reliefs one from 1471 sculpted by Nikola Firentinac (Justice) and one from 1950 by Ivan Meštrović (Ban Berislavić). The Clock Tower stands to the left of the Loggia. It supports a pavilion dome salvaged in 1447 from the Chapel of the Oratory of St Sebastian. The saint's statue on the facade was sculpted by Nikola Firentinac.

### f Church of St John the Baptist

Sv. Ivan Krstitelj

Open ask at tourist office for timings. This small Romanesque church, built in the 13th century, is the pantheon of the powerful Čipiko family. The church housed an Art Gallery (Pinacoteca) with collections of medieval illuminated manuscripts, ornaments, paintings and precious gold pieces from various churches, but this is now in the Museum of Sacred

Art near the cathedral of St Lawrence. The collection also includes a sculpture (Deposition) by Nikola Firentinac, organ panels by Gentile Bellini (St Jerome and St John the Baptist) and two polyptychs by Blaise of Troqir.



Doorway of the Romanesque church of St John the Baptist



The 16th-century loggia where the Fish Market is housed

# Sea Gate and Fish Market Južna vrata

Obala bana Berislavića

The Sea Gate was built at the end of the 16th century and has two beautiful columns made of blocks of light-coloured stone which frame the opening and support a projecting block on which stands the lion of St Mark.

Nearby is the Fish Market which is held in an open loggia with nine columns supporting the roof. It was built in 1527 and was formerly the customs house.



Ceremonial costumes made by the tailor Boris Burić Gena

### Boris Burić Gena

Trogir can boast a unique present-day success story: Boris Burić Gena, a tailor who specializes in making traditional Croatian suits. His signature jackets are made without lapels and have antique-style brocade buttonholes. They are often worn in ceremonies and parades. The careful choice of fabrics, meticulous design and matching of accessories have made this talented craftsman's name. His workshop, the Burić Palace, now draws wealthy and famous clients from all over Europe.

### (†) Church of St Nicholas Sv. Nikola

Gradska ulica 2. **Tel** (021) 881 631. The church and Benedictine convent date from the 11th century, but were rebuilt in the 16th century. The

convent rooms now house the **Zbirka** 

# **Umjetnina Kairos**, an art collection

which includes the Kairos, a relief of Greek origins (1st century BC) depicting the god of opportunity, a Gothic Crucifix, and a Romanesque statue (The Virgin with Child).



Relief depicting Kairos, St Nicholas

# Church of St Dominic

Obala bana Berislavića. **Open** summer: 8am–noon, 4–7pm daily.

The Church and Monastery of St Dominic are Romanesque-Gothic buildings constructed in the 14th century. They were renovated by Nikola Firentinac in the Renaissance style. The single-nave church contains the tomb of Giovanni Sobota, a lawyer, attributed to Nikola Firentinac (1469), and a splendid painting by Palma il Giovane (Circumcision of Christ)

# St Mark's Tower

Kaštel Kamerlengo

In the southwest corner of the island stands Kamerlengo Castle, which was at one time the residence of the Venetian governor. It was built by the Venetians in about 1430, and is a four-sided structure with a hexagonal base. Facing the sea, its high walls connect the three towers and the bastion. This imposing structure was once connected to St Mark's Tower (Kula svetog Marka). The large

open space inside the castle is used for outdoor theatre performances and concerts during the summer months.

St Mark's Tower was built by the Venetians after the construction of the castle and has the typical structure of defences built in the Renaissance period.

A circular tower stands on a truncated cone base and there is a long series of embrasures on the roof. Artillery was installed on the top level in readiness to defend the strip of water that separates the island from the mainland.

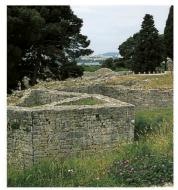
What was once the parade ground, between the castle and St Mark's Tower, is now the town's sports field.



The imposing St Mark's Tower, built for defence in 1470

### Salona

The ancient town of Salona, 5 km (3 miles) from Split, is famous for its Roman ruins. The name Salona (or Salonae) is of Illyrian origin, but its meaning is unknown. Originally an Illyrian settlement, it did not become an important centre until the Romans built a town next to the Greek city. During the rule of Augustus it became a Roman colony called Martia Iulia Salona, and later it was the capital of the province of Dalmatia. In the 1st and 2nd centuries AD the Romans built an amphitheatre, a theatre, temples, baths, a Forum and town walls reinforced with towers, and Salona became the richest and most populated city in the mid-Adriatic. In the mid-7th century, the Avars and the Slavs destroyed it and it fell into disuse. The buildings and the churches were stripped and the stone was used for new buildings.



Ruins of the walls and triangular tower

### **Exploring Salona**

At the beginning of the 19th century excavations began to bring to light the buried remains of this ancient settlement. The work has clearly shown that the town had three districts dating from different periods: the original, old centre (Urbs vetus) and a later part which dates from the Augustan era (Urbs nova occidentalis and Urbs nova orientalis). The excavations have uncovered only a part of the layout of the outer walls, which were frequently reinforced over the centuries. However, the foundations and the remains of towers with triangular or rectangular reinforcements are visible.

A good place to begin a tour is the **Cemetery of Manastirine**, the first Christian cemetery just outside the walls, north of the city (near the parking area). In the 4th century, an early

Christian church was constructed here to house the relics of the Salonian saints, victims of Diocletian's persecution of Christians. The ruins of the necropolis and the basilica are well preserved.

From Manastirine, after the entrance, you reach the **Tusculum**, a villa built in the last century for the distinguished archaeologist Frane Bulić, to enable him to study Salona. A scholar and director

of the Archaeological Museum in Split (see p125), he devoted most of his life to researching the ancient ruins of this city. The building now houses Frane Bulic's memorial room. However, the most interesting material is now in the Archaeological Museum in Split.

Further on is the richest area of ruins with the foundations



Narthex connecting the two basilicas

of early Christian basilicas, baths and the Caesarea Gate. The Baths were first built as a villa in the 3rd century. In the early Christian period the buildings were probably transformed into religious buildings; the Episcopal Centre in the northeastern sector of Salona comprised basilicas, a baptistry and the bishop's residence. Before Christianity became widespread early Christian martyrs were slaved here, including St Domnius (the patron saint of Split), Venantius and Anastasius.

The foundations of two basilicas have been excavated. One is known as the Urban Basilica, the other, called Honorius' Basilica, had a Greek cross plan. This is also the site of what remains of the **Caesarea Gate:** arches flanked by two octagonal towers, showing the building techniques used by the Romans in the Imperial era.

Going west along the walls you reach the **Necropolis of Kapljuč**, another early Christian



Necropolis of Manastirine, just outside the walls



Basilica Urbana in the Bishop's Complex

burial site, and then the imposing ruins of the Amphitheatre, in the easternmost part of the city.

The amphitheatre, in stone. was probably covered in stone and stood in the newer part of the city on the northwest edge of Urbs vetus (Old Town) close to the walls

According to historians, the amphitheatre could seat 18.000-20.000 people. The foundations and a part of the lower tribune were excavated and the discoverv of an underground channel led to the theory that simulated naval battles were held in the arena. However, this proved to be wrong as the arena was unsuitable for naval battles

The amphitheatre's construction date was dehated over for a long time, but has now been established as having taken place in the second half of the 2nd century AD.

From the amphitheatre. another path leads to the theatre at the edge of the old city. This was built in the 1st century AD

and part of the stage and the foundations of the stalls have been excavated Next to the theatre is the Forum. the political and commercial heart of the city. Unlike the Forum in 7adar (see pp94-7), the paying was dismantled and only the foundations

remain. In the Roman era some of the most important buildings stood around the Forum, which was begun in the 1st century AD and subsequently modified.

The best-preserved Roman construction in ancient Salona is the **Aqueduct** built to bring water from the River Jadro to the city and extended in the time of Emperor Diocletian to reach his palace in Split (see pp122-3). Repair work was carried out at the end of the 19th century and the southern part of the aqueduct is still in

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information Map D5 📝 (021) 211 538 Open Apr. May & Sep: 9am-7pm Mon-Fri, 8am-7pm Sat. 9am=1pm Sun: Jun=Aug: 9am-8nm Mon-Fri 8am-8nm Sat. 9am-2pm Sun: Oct: 9am-6nm Mon-Fri 8am-6nm Sat. 9am-1pm Sun: Nov-Mar: 9am-4pm Mon-Sat.

Transport from Split.

w solin-info.com

use. Alongside the walls it is possible to see some parts of the aqueduct above the surface.

From the theatre you return to the Manastirine necropolis, North of this site is the **Necropolis** of Marusinac, built outside the city around the tomb of St Anastasius In this area a few traces of a basilica dating from the 5th century are still visible.



The Amphitheatre, of which only a part of the lower tribune remains

### The Ruins of Salona

- Cemetery of Manastirine
- Tusculum
- 3 Baths
- 4 Episcopal Centre
- (5) Caesarea Gate
- Necropolis of Kapljuć
- 7 Amphitheatre (8) Theatre
- Porum
- (ii) Necropolis of Marusinac

0 metres	500
0 yards	500
0 yards	500



## **O** Split

Shipvards, factories and a busy port present the modern face of Split, which expanded unchecked after World War II. The Old Town centre is still full of charm however: it grew up in and around the Emperor Diocletian's vast Roman palace, one of the largest and best-preserved left from the Roman world. In 614, the palace took in refugees from Salona (see pp.118-19), which had been razed by the Avars, and these newcomers began to use the Roman structure as housing. Among the refugees were the bishop and other religious dignitaries, who breathed new life into the bishopric of Split. After two centuries of Byzantine rule and the establishment of Croat communities. Split became part of the Venetian territories in 1409. Under the Venetians, fortifications were built, including new walls and the arts flourished



The port and the seafront of Split

### Golden Gate Zlatna vrata

This was the main entrance to Diocletian's Palace (see p122) and was the most impressive of the gates, with towers and decorative elements above the arches. In the 11th century, the corridor between the palace and the gate was closed and turned into the Church of St Martin (Sv. Martin). An inscription commemorates Father Dominic, the founder.

### **IIII** Split City Museum Muzei grada Splita

Papalićeva 1. Tel (021) 360 171. Open Apr & May: 8:30am-9pm daily; Jun-Sep: 8:30am-10pm daily; Oct: 8:30am-9pm Mon-Sat, 9am-5pm Sun; Nov-Mar: 9am-5pm Tue-Sat, 9am–2pm Sun. W mgst.net

The Gothic Papalić Palace, housing the Split City Museum, is one of the most interesting of the 15th-16th-century buildings constructed in the

abandoned parts of the Diocletian complex. It houses an exhibition with various artistic finds, paintings and books illustrating the city's celebrated history from the 12th to the 18th centuries.

### Peristyle

The peristyle the interior courtvard, of Diocletian's Palace is an impressive part of the complex where the lavers of centuries of building can

clearly be seen. The slim columns bordering three sides rest on a high plinth and have finely worked capitals. The access to the former private quarters of Diocletian has a tall arched tympanum and relief decorations.

### (†) Baptistry of St John Sv. Ivan Krstiteli

Tel (021) 345 602.

Open 9am-7pm daily.

This small, beautiful building, consecrated in the 6th century, was the Palace's Temple of Jupiter, Inside, the baptismal font incorporates a pre-Romanesque panel of King Zvonimir and other dignitaries. The statue of St John on the end wall is by Ivan Meštrović and was added before World War II. The tomb of Bishop John is from the 8th century and the one in front of it, that of Bishop Lawrence, dates from the 11th century.



Baptismal font in the Baptistry of St John. former Temple of Jupiter

### (†) Cathedral of St Domnius Katedrala sv. Duje See p123.

### Silver Gate and Church of St Dominic

Srebrna vrata i Sv. Dominik Hrvojeva ulica. Church of St Dominic: Open am.

Near the Silver Gate there is a market, a wonderful chaos of seasonal fruit and vegetables. homemade cheeses, hams and dried herbs. Because of the open space this also provides the best view of the Palace of Diocletian. It is still possible to distinguish the different structures of the complex, and part of the quards' corridor, on the walls, can be walked along.

In front of the gate is the Oratory of St Catherine, built in the Middle Ages. It was used by the Dominicans while they built their own monastery (1217). The oratory was rebuilt in the 17th century and became the Church of St Dominic (Sv. Dominik). Inside the church. which was enlarged in 1930, are a Miracle in Surian by Palma il Giovane and an Apparition in the Temple, attributed to his school.

### Brass Gate Miedena vrata

Ethnographic Museum: Iza Vestibula 4. Tel (021) 344 164. Open Jun-Sep: 9:30am-8pm Mon-Sat, 9:30am-1pm Sun; Oct-May: 9am-4pm Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm Sat, 🔊 👢 w etnografski-muzej-split.hr

Although the Brass Gate is plain and faces the sea and port, it opens on to the richest facade of the palace. The upper floor had a portico which was later enclosed for living guarters. The vast cellars have been excavated to reveal impressive arched vaults and skilful masonry. Shops occupy some of these while others house an exhibition about the nalace and temporary local displays.

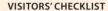
Close to the Brass Gate, on Severova, is the **Ethnographic** Museum (Etnografski muzei). displaying an array of skilled Dalmatian folk crafts

### Iron Gate Želiezna vrata

The church of Our Lady of the Belfry (Gospa od Zvonika) has the city's oldest early Romanesque bell tower (1081) and was constructed in the outer passageway above this Palace entrance.

This was the centre of business and administration from the





### Practical Information

Map D5. 73 175.000. 7 Peristil bb. (021) 345 606. St Domnius Feast (7 May): Split Summer (mid-lul-mid-Aug)

w visitsplit.com

### Transport

Split Airport: Kaštel Štafilić (021) 203 506. Obala kneza Domagoia, (060) 333 444. Obala kneza Domagoia. (060) 327 777. A Jadrolinia. (021) 338 333.

15th century and so the nobility erected prestigious buildings here Examples are the Venetian-Gothic Cambi Palace and the Renaissance Town Hall (Vijećnica), built in the first half of the 15th century. with a loggia with three arches on the ground floor and a Gothic window on the upper floor.



(8) Iron Gate

Renaissance Town Hall on People's Square in the centre of Split

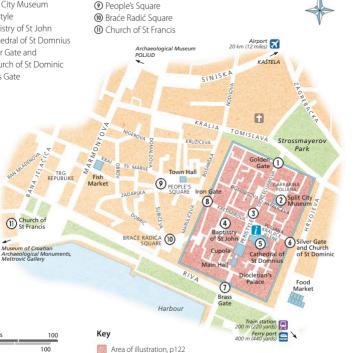
### Split Town Centre

- Split City Museum
- 3 Peristyle
- A Baptistry of St John
- Cathedral of St Domnius
- Silver Gate and Church of St Dominic

(7) Brass Gate

0 metres

0 yards



### Palace of Diocletian

Diocletian, probably a native of Salona, became emperor in 284. He made Maximian joint Augustus, senior co-emperor, in 285, and then in 293 he appointed Galerius and Constantius as Caesars, junior co-emperors (the Tetrarchy). After governing for 20 years. Diocletian retired from public life and in 305 moved to the palace which he had commissioned from the architects. Filotas and Zotikos in the bay of Split. After Diocletian's death in 316, the palace was used as administrative offices and the governor's residence. In 615, refugees from Salona found shelter here after the destruction of their city by the Avars. The richest settled in the emperor's apartments, the poorer in the towers and above the gates. The corners of the palace were marked by four square towers, and four towers along the north, east and south sides, while the side facing the sea had a loggia with arches.



Iron Gate and the Clock Tower This is the best-preserved gate: beyond is the church of Our Lady of the Belfry with a 12th-century tower next to it.



### Temple of Jupiter

This had an atrium with six columns. The body of the building had a coffered vault and rested on an underground crypt. In the early Middle Ages it was turned into the Baptistry of St. John

### The Temples of Venus and Cybele were circular outside

and had a hexagonal groundplan inside. A colonnaded corridor ran around the outside





Near the crossroads where the Cardo and Decumanus intersected, the peristyle gave access to the sacred area. On one side were the temples of Venus and Cybele and, further back, that of Jupiter (now the Baptistry of St John); on the other side, the Mausoleum, now the cathedral.



#### Portrait of Diocletian

After reorganizing the empire, the emperor sought the spiritual unification of its citizens. The state religion, personified by the emperor, gained in importance, and temples were constructed bearing his image. Christians were subject to extremely violent persecution.

The Golden Gate, facing Salona, was the main entrance to the palace. This was the most imposing of the gates with two towers and many decorations.

The Silver Gate, or

eastern gate, was a

simpler copy of the

Golden Gaté

### (†) Cathedral of St Domnius Katedrala sv. Duie

Kraj sv. Duje 5. **Tel** (021) 345 602. **Open** Jun-Aug: 8am-sunset daily; Sep-May: 9am-noon, 4:30–7:30nm daily

Originally the mausoleum of the emperor Diocletian, the cathedral was consecrated in the 7th century when the sarcophagus containing the body of Diocletian was removed and replaced with a certain poetic justice, by the remains of St Domnius (locally St Duje), a 3rd-century bishop martyred as part of Diocletian's persecution of the early Christians. It was the archhishon of Split at the time who transformed the mausoleum into a Christian church, and St Domnius became the city's patron saint.

The structure is widely regarded as the oldest Catholic cathedral in the world that has not been substantially rebuilt

at any time. Since being first built it has remained practically unaltered except for the construction of a Romanesque bell tower (12th–16th centuries) and the addition of the 13th-century choir inside.

An ancient sphinx in black granite rests at the foot of the bell tower. The entrance doorway has wooden panels from 1214, with scenes from the Gospel in floral frames. The cathedral, built on an octagonal ground-plan, has a double order of Corinthian



Detail of the Altar of St Anastasius, Cathedral of St Domnius



The 13th-century hexagonal pulpit,

columns most of them the Roman originals: above these is a frieze decorated with scenes of Eros hunting, supporting medallions with portraits of Diocletian and his wife Prisca. In the second niche on the right, with frescoes dating from 1428, is the Altar of St Domnius, the work of Bonino of Milan (1427). The wooden choir stalls in the 17th-century presbytery are an example of Romanesque carving from the beginning of the 13th century.

To the side is a chapel housing the Altar of St Anastasius, designed in 1448 by Juraj Dalmatinac. The niche after this was altered in the 18th century to create the Baroque chapel of St Domnius. The 13th-century hexagonal pulpit is supported by thin columns with carved capitals. The 14th-century building behind the cathedral houses the sacristy and the name of one of the architects. Filotas, is inscribed by the entrance. In the sacristy, now the Cathedral Museum, are many works of art, including objects in gold and silver, ancient manuscripts, medieval icons and vestments.

Of particular importance are the *Historia Saloniana* written by Archdeacon Toma in the 13th century and a 7th-century Gospel.

# Reconstruction of Diocletian's Palace

The palace, shown here in its original form, was like a typical Roman military camp. It was 215 m (705 ft) long and 180 m (590 ft) wide and was enclosed by very thick walls, at times 28 m (92 ft) high. The four-sided stronghold was reinforced with towers on the north, east and west sides. There is a gate on each side, connected by two roads corresponding to the Roman Cardo and Decumanus.

### **Exploring Split**

As well as Diocletian's palace, Split has much in the way of historical and artistic interest to offer. In the medieval period. villages were built near the walls. When the city became a free town, settlements became physically linked. The present-day Braće Radić Square and the People's Square were built, along with the Cambi Palace and the Town Hall. After 1420, construction of the external defences began and town walls were built. Between Split and Trogir, castles built for defence against the Turks still survive.



The 15th-century Marina Tower, built by the Venetians

### 📰 Braće Radić Square Tra braće Radić

This medieval square is at the southwest corner of Diocletian's Palace. The tall Marina Tower (Hrvojeva kula) is the only evidence of the imposing castle built by the Venetians in the second half of the 15th century after the final defeat of Split, Built on an octagonal ground-plan, it stands on the southern side of the square.

On the northern side is the Baroque Milesi Palace, which dates from the 17th century. There is also a work by Ivan Meštrović in the centre of the square: the great Monument to Marko monument to Marko Marulić, the writer and scholar (1450-1524) who was the founder of literature in the Croatian language. The imposing bronze statue dedicated to the writer has an inscription with some verses by the poet Tin Ujević.

#### (†) Church of St Francis Sv. Frane

Trg Republike. (021) 348 600 (tourist office). Open by appt.

The church has been rebuilt in recent times but the small Romanesque-Gothic cloister with thin columns enclosing a flower garden, is original.

The church, with mainly Baroque furnishings, has a 15th-century crucifix by Blaž Juriev Trogiranin. It also houses the tombs of the city's illustrious citizens, including that of Archdeacon Toma (the first Dalmatian historian), writer Marko Marulić and the wellknown composer Ivan Lukačić

### Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments Muzei hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika

Stiepana Guniace bb. Tel (021) 323 901. Open Jul & Aug: 9am-1pm, 5-8pm Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm Sat; Sep-Jun: 9am-4pm Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm

> Sat. Closed Sun, public hols. & W mhas-split.hr

Set up in 1975, this museum houses finds from the area around Split dating from the early Middle Ages. The collection also includes the works of early Croat sculptors, dating from 800. The stone fragments.

salvaged from churches and castles, consist mainly of tombs, capitals, altar fronts, ciboria and

windows. Highlights include Prince Višeslav's hexagonal baptismal font in marble, dating from the beginning of the 9th century, and the sarcophagus of Oueen Jelena (10th century). discovered in the ancient Roman city of Salona.



Distant Accords by Ivan Meštrović. Meštrović Gallery

#### IIII Meštrović Gallery Galeriia Meštrović

Šetalište Ivana Meštrovića 46 Tel (021) 340 800 Open May-Sep: 9am-7pm Tue-Sun: Oct-Apr: 9am-4pm Tue-Sat, 10am–3pm Sun, 🔊 🗖 🎮

#### w mestrovic.hr

The building housing this gallery was the residence of Ivan Meštrović in the early 1930s (see p163). The sculptor himself designed the building to be his family house studio and gallery His sculptures, including Distant Accords and Persenhone. decorate the garden and the interior. Among statues in marble, wood and bronze are The Contemplation. The Vow and Psyche. Part of the building still preserves the artist's apartments.

The **Kaštilac**, further down the road at No. 39, can be visited with the same ticket. This 16th-century residence once belonged to the Capogrosso-Kavanjin family and was bought by Meštrović in 1939 to set up an exhibition hall. The artist also built a small church here to exhibit a series of reliefs called New Testament, now replaced by a different work, the Author of the Apocalypse.

### **IIII** National Art Gallery Galerija umjetnina

Ulica kralja Tomislava 15. Tel (021) 350 110. Open mid-Jun-mid-Sep: 10am-9pm Tue-Sun; mid-Sep-mid-Jun: 10am-6pm Tue-Fri, 10am-2pm Sat & Sun. Closed Sun, public hols.



The gallery offers a broad overview of art in Split and the

Marulić

rest of Croatia from the 14th to the 20th centuries. As well as the Venetian masters there are also important icons from the so-called school of Bocche di Cattaro (18th–19th centuries) and more contemporary work, including works by Ivan Meštrović and Vlaho Bukovac. Temporary exhibitions are also held here.

# Museum Split

Arheološki muzej u Splitu

Zrinsko Frankopanska 25. **Tel** (021) 329 340. **Open** Jun-Sep: 9am–2pm, 4–8pm Mon–Sat; Oct–May: 9am–2pm, 4–8pm Mon–Fri, 9am–2pm Sat 2 4 5

The museum was founded in 1820 and has been on its present site since 1914. It contains a considerable number of finds from the Roman, early Christian and medieval periods

which are exhibited in rotation. Of great interest are the finds from Roman Salona, including sculptures, capitals, sarcophagi (those from the 4th–5th century still have pagan reliefs), jewellery, coins, small objects in glazed terracotta and ceramics. There are also finds from the Roman town of Narona (see p136).

# ① Our Lady of Grace in Poljud Gospa od Poljuda

Poljudsko šetalište 17. **1** (021) 381 011. **Open** by appt.

Towards Zrinsko-Frankopanska in the direction of the suburbs lies an area once called the



Polyptych by Girolamo da Santacroce, Our Lady of Grace

marsh (poljud). In the 1400s, the Franciscans built a fortified monastery here with large lateral towers, and a church

with a trussed roof.

A polyptych by
Girolamo da
Santacroce from
1549 stands on the
main altar, depicting
the Virgin and Saints: the
figure holding a model
of the city is St Domnius,
patron saint of Split.

Many works of art are on display, including a *Portrait* of *Bishop Tommaso Nigris* by Lorenzo Lotto (1527) and miniatures by Bone Razmilović.

Sarcophagus.

Archaeological

Museum Split

Not far from the monastery is the stadium of the famous Hajduk Split football team, built in 1979 in the suburb of Poljud and designed by Boris Magaš.

### Marian Peninsula

This protected nature reserve is on the west side of town, and is reached by a winding flight of steps. On the way is the 13th-century church of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikola). A path leads out to the wooded peninsula, from where there

are fine views out to sea, with the islands of Šolta, Brač and Hvar clearly visible. You can also find the best beaches in Split in this pleasant area.

#### Environs

Seven Castles (Kaštela) is the name given to a series of fortifications built by the Venetian governor and local nobles to defend the town against the Turks between the end of the 15th century and the 16th century, between Split and Trogir. The village of Kaštela grew up around the complex. Five of the original castles are still preserved, as are the fortified villas which rose from their reconstruction.

St George's Castle (Kaštel Sućurac), the summer residence of the bishop of Split, was built at the end of the 14th century and strengthened the following century by building a wall, of which some traces remain.

**Abbess Castle** (Kaštel Gomilica) was built on an island which is now linked to the mainland.

Vitturi Castle (Kaštel Lukšić) was transformed into a large villa, keeping only the old external structure. It was built by the Vitturi family, who donated a sculpture by Juraj Dalmatinac to the church of St Raynerius (Sv. Arnir). Old Castle (Kaštel Stari) has kept its original aspect; the sea-facing side looks like a palace with Gothic windows.

All that remains of the **New Castle** (Kaštel Novi) are the tower and St Roch church, built by the Čipiko family.



Stadium of the Hajduk football team, built in 1979 in the suburb of Poljud

### § Šolta

Map D5. ▲ 1,400. ➡ from Split.

Rogač, (021) 654 657.

w visitsolta.com

This long island, indented with bays and coves, covers an area of 52 sq km (20 sq miles). The economy is based on agriculture thanks to reasonably fertile soil and, over recent years, tourism has also become important. The Romans called the island Solenta and it was a holiday resort for the nobility of Salona. The ruins of many villas can be found in lovely locations on the island.

After the attack on Salona in 614, some of the refugees fled here and villages were built. Some still have small churches dating from the early Middle Ages. The island was later abandoned in favour of Split, due to constant Turkish raids – though some refugees from the mainland did settle here.

Today, many people from Split have holiday homes on Solta. The fishing ports of Stomorska at the eastern end of the island, and Maslinica, at the west, both lie in beautiful bays with plenty of nearby opportunities for swimming. There are many pretty inlets near Maslinica that make ideal moorings for yachts and motorboats. But it is worth venturing inland, too: the main inland villages of Grohote and Donie Selo are characteristically atmos-pheric Adriatic settlements of well-preserved stone houses and narrow streets.



The mainland from Supetar on Brač island

### O Brač

Map D5. ▲ 14,000. ▼ (021) 559 711. ■ to Supetar from Split. ■ (060) 393 060. Supetar: ↑ Porat 10, (021) 630 900. ▼ supetar.hr Bol: ↑ Porat bolskih pomoraca bb, (021) 635 638. ▼ bol.hr

The third largest island in the Adriatic at 40 km (25 miles) long and 15 km (9 miles) wide. Brač has an interesting geological structure. In some areas the ranges of limestone hills have sinkholes and are cut by ravines and gorges. In other areas a white hard stone prevails. The stone has been quarried since ancient times (see p140) and is still much sought after. The island is covered with a mixture of woodland Mediterranean scrub. and olive groves.

Although Brač has always been inhabited, it was first subject to Salona (the rich Salonians built villas and also sought refuge here when their town was attacked by the Avars), and then to Split. Both Split and Brač came under Byzantine and then Venetian rule. Under the Venetians (1420–1797), villages were built in the interior but no defences were built to prevent the pirates and Turks landing.

Ferries from Split on the mainland dock at the Old Town of **Supetar**, which has some good pebble beaches and shallow bays popular with families. Supetar's graveyard is the site of the impressive Petrinović Mausoleum, a richly decorated rotunda designed by sculptor Toma Rosandić.

To the southwest lies the town of **Milna**, which was founded at the beginning of the 18th century and faces a



The port at Maslinica on Šolta



sheltered bay. The exterior of the church of the Annunciation of Mary (Gospa od Blagovijesti) is Baroque and the interior is decorated in the Rococo style.

Nerežišća in the centre of the island was for a long period its main town. The Governor's Palace, the Loggia and a pedestal with the lion of St Mark are signs of its former status Also inland is **Škrip** probably the site of the first settlement on the island and the presumed birthplace of Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine. The church and a painting by Palma il Giovane on the main altar are dedicated to Helen. A fortified building houses Brač Museum and exhibits archaeological finds. evidence of humankind's ancient presence on the island.

The major attraction at Bol. on the southern coast, is the long beach on the western side of town (Zlatni rat, meaning Golden Horn), a triangular spit of shingle which reaches out into the sea and changes shape with the seasonal tides. Zlatni rat gets extremely busy in summer, with excursion boats bringing tourists here from resorts all over Brač and from nearby Hyar island too. It is also a popular spot for windsurfing.

Bol itself is an attractive town. arranged around a picturesque harbour. Occupying a waterfront building, the **Branislav** Dešković Gallery displays paintings and sculpture by some of Croatia's leading 20th-century artists.

### A Dominican Monastery

founded in 1475, stands on a headland at the edge of the town The beautiful church is decorated with paintings. including a Virgin with Saints attributed to Tintoretto, A rich treasury includes liturgical objects

From Bol you can climb up Mount St Vitus (Vidova Gora). a 2-hour walk to one of the highest peaks in the Dalmatian islands, at 778 m (2,552 ft). Hidden in a ravine west of Mount St Vitus is Blaca Hermitage (Pustinia Blaca), a 16th-century fortified monastery clinaina to the rocky slopes. Now a museum, the hermitage contains an absorbing collection of religious relics together with astronomical and other scientific equipment left behind by former monks. Walking to Blaca is a popular excursion, if a somewhat hot and dry trek in summer - it can be approached from the north via Nerezišća or from the southeast from Bol.

There are further attractions along the northern coast and to the east of the island. Along the coast from Supetar, quiet Lovrečina Bay is over-looked by the ruins of the 5th-6th century Basilica of St Lawrence, a pilgrimage site. Lying at the end of a long sea inlet. Pučišća is the centre of the island's stone quarrying industry, active since at least Roman times. The blocks were loaded onto ships at the port. Povlia, further east still, is one of the island's most charming former fishing ports.



Pleasure hoats and swimmers on the southern coast of Brač

with stone houses straggling along the sides of a deep bay.

The quaint port of Sumartin on the southeastern corner of the island is where ferries from the mainland resort of Makarska arrive. It was founded by refugees from the Makarska region fleeing the Turks in 1645. There is a fine Franciscan monastery the foundations of which were laid by the poet Andrija Kačić Miošić.

#### IIII Brač Museum

Škrip (021) 637 092 Open summer: 8am-8pm daily; winter: by appt.

### IIII Branislav Dešković Gallerv

Put bolskih pomoraca bb. Bol. (021) 637 092. Open mid-Junmid-Sep: 9am-noon, 6-11pm Tue-Sun: mid-Sep-mid-Jun: 9am-2pm Tuo Eri

### IIII Dominican Monastery

Anđelka Rabadana 4, Bol. 7 (021) 778 000. Open 10am-noon. 5-8pm daily.



Bol's famous golden beach, changing shape with the tides

### **@** Vis

Further out in the Adriatic than the other Dalmatian islands, Vis was until 1989 a closed military base. Now gradually being rediscovered by intrepid travellers, it has a jagged coastline with beaches, and an inland mountain chain with Mount Hum reaching a height of 587 m (1,925 ft). The island was chosen by Dionysios of Syracuse as a base for Greek domination of the Adriatic. The Greeks founded the town of Issa – now Vis town – here. Later the island was ruled by the Romans, then the Byzantines and, from 1420, the Venetians. The island played a key role during World War II – in 1944 Marshal Tito used it as a base for co-ordinating partisan military operations. Crucial meetings between partisans, the Yugoslav government in exile and the Allies were also held on Vis.

### Vis Town

The main town of **Vis** is ranged along the shores of a deep. broad bay. On a hillside behind a group of tennis courts are the remains of an ancient Greek cemetery, where you can see the remains of tombstones left by the town's first inhabitants. Further along the north side of the bay are remnants of Roman mosaics, once part of a 2nd-century baths complex. Just beyond, the Franciscan Monastery Church sits on a small peninsula bordered by pebble beaches. Also on the peninsula is the town's gravevard, where a

monument in the form of a lion recalls the great sea battle that took place near here between the Austrian and Italian payies in 1866

On the southern side of Vis town's bay is the Renaissance church of Our Lady of Spilica (Gospa od Spilica), with a painting by Girolamo di Santacroce. Occupying a former Austrian gun battery is the **Town Museum**, with a rich collection of Greek and Roman vases and amphorae. Further north, the suburb of Kut is a charming warren of alleyways and piazzas. Beyond Kut lies the British Cemeterv.



The pretty town of Komiža and its sheltered harbour

a small walled enclosure honouring those who died while stationed here during both the Napoleonic Wars and World War II. A short walk uphill to the north of the town lie reminders of the early-19th-century British occupation of Vis – the King George III Fortress and the Bentich Tower. Both are empty shells today, but are set in beautiful countryside with good views.

#### **IIII** Town Museum

Gospina batarija. (2021) 711 729. Open Jun-Sep: 9am-1pm, 5-9pm Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm Sat; Oct-May: by appt for groups only.



#### Komiža

On the western side of the island lies **Komiža**, a quaint port long associated with the anchovy-fishing industry. Lined with handsome stone houses Komiža harbour is one of the most attractive in the Adriatic Right on the quavside. A defensive tower, built by the Venetians and known as the Kaštel, is righ on the quavside. It now houses the Fishing Museum, which commemorates the swift Falkuša sailing boats unique to this town that were once used to bring in the local catch. On the north side of the bay is the 16thcentury Church of Our Lady of the Pirates (Gospa Gusarica) so-called because legend has it, a band of pirates who had stolen its wooden image of the Madonna were swiftly killed in a shipwreck, while the statue floated safely back to shore. It has an unusual triple-nave layout Just inland from the town centre, the Benedictine Monastery sits on a small hill. fortified by defensive bastions and flanked by vineyards. Komiža's best beaches lie south where there is a series of coves

### **IIII** Fishing Museum

Riva svetog Mikule. Open Jun-Sep: 11am-noon, 7-10pm Mon-Sat. 7-10pm Sun.

#### Mount Hum

Looming above Komiža is Vis's highest point, Mount Hum



The Kaštel, a fortified lookout tower built by the Venetians at Komiža

be reached either by road or by hiking path from Komiža Superb views can be enjoyed from the summit, and adventure-sports enthusiasts use it as a base for hang-gliding On the eastern side of the summit is Tito's Cave (Titova špilia) where the World War II partisan leader Josip Broz Tito based his HO for several months in mid-1944. It was here that Tito's army planned the re-conquest of Germanoccupied Dalmatia The cave is frequently open to visitors over the summer, although vou should check with Komiža tourist office to make sure.

### Plisko Polie

Plisko Polie is the main inland village on the south side of the island, where fertile fields yield some of the Adriatic's best



A small boat from a Komiža hotel, taking visitors to Biševo island

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information Road Map D6 155 4 300 Vis town: Setalište stare Isse 5. (021) 717 017. w tz-vis.hr Komiža: 67 (021) 713 455

W tz-komiza hr Transport

from Split and Hyar ladroliniia. (021) 711 032.

outside Plisko Polie were used to create a landing strip during World War II so that Allied planes could supply Tito's partisans, although the site is now largely covered by vinevards. One part of the former landing strip is occupied by Croatia's only cricket pitch – built by enthusiastic locals who emigrated to Australia and returned home with a love of the sport. South of Plisko Polie. tracks lead to the enchanting coves of Stiniva and Mala Travna, both hugely popular with bathers despite being quite hard to reach - many trippers come on excursion boats from Vis town or Komiža

### **Environs**

The starkly beautiful island of Biševo, to the southwest of Vis, is sparsely inhabited and cannot be reached by regular ferry transport. It is a popular destination for hoat excursions because of its Blue Grotto (Modra špilja), a cave where the water takes on beautiful colours. This mesmerising effect is produced by sunlight shining into the cave through a slightly submerged aperture. The grotto can only be reached by boat: day trips depart from Komiža in the morning (contact the tourist office or any of the private tourist agencies near Komiža harbour).

Many boat trips to the grotto also allow visitors a few free hours on the island of Biševo itself. A monastery was built here in around 1000 AD. which resisted raids by pirates and Saracens for 200 years. The ruins remain, along with a 12th-century church.

### **1** Hvar

Art treasures, a mild climate, good beaches and fields of scented lavender make this island one of the treasures of the Adriatic. Limestone hills form the central ridge. Hvar's story begins in the 4th century BC when the Greeks from Paros founded Pharos (the present-day Stari Grad) and Dimos (Hvar town). Traces have been left by the Romans, the Byzantines, the medieval Croatian kings and the Venetians, who ruled from 1278 until 1797. After 1420, defences were built, and the capital was moved from Pharos to Hvar town. In 1886, under Austria-Hungary, the Hvar Hygienic Society began to promote the town as a health resort. Hvar was an important centre of Croatian culture during the Renaissance, when local-born poets Hanibal Lucić and Petar Hektorović both wrote lyrically about the people and landscapes of the Adriatic.



Narrow street between traditional stone houses in Stari Grad

# Hvar Town See pp132-3.

### Stari Grad

Founded by the Syracusans in the 4th century BC and originally called Pharos, Stari Grad (literally, the Old Town) is still Hvar's main ferry port, still Hvar's main ferry political and cultural importance to Hvar town. Stari Grad lies at the end of a long bay and the main sights are scattered throughout

a picturesque old quarter of low stone houses and tiny streets. The 17th-century parish Church of **St Stephen** (Sv. Stjepan), with its free-standing Venetian-style bell tower, is the principal landmark. At the western end of the old quarter is the **Tvrdalj**, the fortified residence of Renaissance poet Petar Hektorović . Hektorović is best known as the author of *Ribanje i ribarsko prigovaranje* (*Fishing and Fishermen's Conversation*) in



Main square of Hvar, with the Cathedral of St Stephen

which he vividly describes a fishing trip around the islands of Hvar. Brač and Šolta. He began building the Tvrdalj in 1514, intending for it to be both a palatial private house and a fortified sanctuary into which the local population could retreat should there be an attack by pirates. The Tvrdali was intended to be a self-sustaining unit, with a garden, a dovecote and a seawater fishpond were included within its walls. Hektorović placed philosophical inscriptions in Latin on the walls of the Tvrdali, turning his home into a unique monument to Renaissance humanist thought.

Nearby is **Stari Grad Museum**, housed in the
Renaissance Biankini Palace.
It contains a stunning collection
of Greek amphorae, some
beautifully restored period
rooms, and a picture gallery
devoted to local artists, including the gifted, Paris-trained Juraj
Plančić (1899–1930). The Moira
Gallery at Vagonj 1 shows
contemporary art and contains
fragments of Roman mosaic
in the floor.





Part of the tranquil canal system, Vrboska

On the edge of the old quarter is the **Dominican** Monastery (Dominikanski samostan), founded by Brother Germano of Piacenza in 1482 and rebuilt and fortified after destruction by Uluz Ali, the Ottoman corsair who raided the Adriatic islands in 1571 The most feared sea captain of his time. Uluz Ali was driven away by the stubborn defenders of Korčula, and came to pillage the less well-defended island of Hyar instead. As well as a beautiful cloister, the monastery has a library rich in medieval incunabula, and a collection of paintings including a Deposition by Tintoretto. The monastery church contains the grave of Petar Hektorović.

Immediately east of Stari Grad, the **Ager** is a fertile plain that still preserves the field plan established by the island's ancient Greek inhabitants. Archaeologists have revealed that the Greeks cultivated wine. figs and olives, much as their modern counterparts do today. but also grew wheat. Added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 2008, the Ager can be explored on foot or by bike. There are splendid views from the 16th-century Španiola fort and the Napoleon fort (1811).

### IIII Tyrdali

Priko bb. Open May, Jun & Sep: 10am-1pm daily: July & Aug: 10am-1pm, 5pm-8pm daily.

### MI Town Museum

Ulaz braće Biankini 2 📝 (021) 766. 324 Open May Jun & Sen 10am-1pm Mon-Sat: Jul & Aug: 10am-noon, 7-9pm Mon-Sat, 7-9pm Sun: Oct-Apr: by appt.

### **†** Dominican Monastery

Trg sv. Petra bb. **Tel** (021) 765 442. Open Jun-Sep: 10am-noon, 6-8pm daily; Oct-May: by appt.

#### Jelsa

A traditional Dalmatian stonebuilt settlement around a small harbour, Jelsa is a popular base for family holidays, with several beaches on the outer fringes of town. For much of its history Jelsa was a prosperous port. exporting the wines produced in the villages just inland. Steps from Jelsa's café-filled main square ascend to the Gothic parish Church of St Mary (Sv. Mariia). Hidden in the narrow allevs of the historic centre is Trg svetog Ivana, a Renaissance piazza grouped around a unique octagonal chapel. The palmshaded park behind Jelsa's harbour contains a statue of 19th-century sea captain Nika Duboković by the prominent Dalmatian sculptor Ivan Rendić.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Map D-E5, 75 11,500. Hvar town: Trg syetog Stiepana 42. (021) 741 059. Stari Grad: Ohala dr. Franie Tuđmana 1 (021) 765 763 Sućurai: (021) 717 288. w tzhvar.hr

### Transport

Split, Dryenik, Hyar town: (021) 741 007: Jadrolinija: (021) 741 132 Stari Grad: (021) 765 060: Jadroliniia: (021) 765 048. Sućurai: (021) 773 228

#### Vrboska

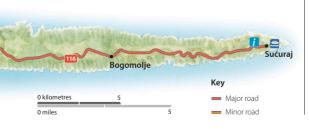
Vrboska is a pretty village huddled around a succession of stone bridges spanning a narrow canal connected to the open sea. Dominating the village is the 16th-century Church of St Mary (Sv. Marija), fortified with huge buttresses to provide shelter for villagers in times of siege. The Baroque Church of St Lawrence (Sv. Lovro) has a polvptych on the main altar by Paolo Veronese (c.1570) and a Virgin of the Rosary by Leandro da Bassano. A short walk north is the Glavica peninsula, with rocky beaches and pebbly coves. The seaside path from Vrboska to Jelsa is perfect for a relaxed stroll.

#### Zavala

Zavala is the principal village of Hvar's peaceful southern coast. where quiet hamlets lie below slopes covered with vineyards. The road here from Jelsa runs through a famously low and narrow single-lane tunnel. There is a long stretch of pebbly beach running along Zavala's shoreline. Boat captains here offer trips to the islet of Šćedro just to the south, with even quieter beaches, pine trees and maguis vegetation.

#### Sućurai

Lying in a sheltered bay at the eastern tip of the island, Sućurai is where the ferry from Drvenik on the mainland arrives. Its pretty harbour boasts the remains of a fortress built by the Venetians in 1630. Nearby, Mlaska Bay and Perna Bay are two of Hyar's best beaches, with clear shallow water over fine sand.



### **Exploring Hvar Town**

Thanks to its wonderfully preserved Renaissance centre, Hvar town is one of the most visited on the Dalmatian coast. It has long been popular with Croatian artists and celebrities, lending it a chic ambience reflected in the growing number of stylish restaurants, bars and hotels. Much frequented by luxury yachts and boats in summer, Hvar's harbourside is one of the most glamorous in the Adriatic. Hvar town did not become the main town on the island until the 15th century, when Venetian governors decided that the harbour was easier to defend than the one at Stari Grad, and ordered all the island's noble families to move here. Hvar town became one of the most important ports for Venetian fleets going to and from the Orient, bringing an upsurge in trade and wealth. Cultural life and monastic orders also flourished



Cafés on the main square, with the cathedral in the background

### (†) Cathedral of St Stephen Katedrala sv. Stiepana

Trg svetog Stjepana. **Tel** (021) 743 107. Cathedral Treasury: **Open** summer: 9am–noon, 5–7pm daily; winter: by appt.

Dominating Hvar's harbourside main square, Trg svetog Stjepana, the Renaissance cathedral has a trefoil pediment and a 17th-century bell tower standing to one side. The interior houses many works of art: a Virgin and Saints by Palma il Giovane (1544–1628), a Pietà by Juan Boschetus, Virgin with Saints by Domenico Uberti and a fine 16th-century wooden choir. The cathedral treasury boasts a rich collection of reliquaries and silverware.

#### Arsenal

Trg svetog Stjepana. **Closed** for restoration until late 2017.

On the south side of the square, the Arsenal was built in the late 16th century as a dry dock for Venetian war galleys. A theatre built on the first floor in 1612 is one of the oldest in Europe. The theatre was open to people of all classes in a



Open to the sky, the Gothic windows of the Hektorović Palace, never completed

deliberate attempt to lessen social conflict between aristocrats and plebeians. The plush interior has been well preserved and art exhibitions are held in the foyer. There are fine views of town from the theatre's balustraded terrace.

Diagonally opposite the Arsenal, the Renaissance clock tower and loggia are all that remains of the **Rector's Palace**, where the administrator appointed by the Venetian Republic once held sway. The rest of the palace was demolished in 1900 to make way for the Hotel Elisabeth, since renamed Hotel Palace (see p228).

# Hektorović Palace

North of the main square is a very ancient quarter of the town called Groda, consisting of stone houses and narrow alleys clinging to a sharply rising hillside. The most prominent landmark here is the **Hektorović Palace**, an unfinished building project by the 15th-century poet Petar Hektorović (see pp130–31). It is easily recognized by its beautiful Venetian-Gothic mullioned windows.

# Benedictine Convent Benediktini samostan

Groda bb. **Tel** (021) 741 052. **Open** 10am–noon, 5–7pm Mon–Sat.

Just behind the Hektorović Palace is a Benedictine convent founded in 1664 that houses a secluded community of nuns who still make, display and sell traditional Hvar lace, made by weaving fibres extracted from the spiky agave plants that can be seen all over the island.

### Citadel

Open Apr & May: 10am–4pm daily; Jun–Sep: 10am–10pm daily Paths ascend from the Groda district to the 16th-century Citadel on the hill above town, known locally as Španjola because it was built by Spanish architects who specialized in fortification work. Superb views of the surrounding coast are offered by the citadel's ramparts.

### (†) Church of St Mark Crkva svetog Marka

Visible all over town is the belfry of the former Dominican monastery's Church of St Mark. west of the main square. The monastery was an important centre of culture during the Renaissance. It was here that friar Vinko Pribojević gave a famous speech on the Origins of the Slavs in 1525, proposing not only that the Slav peoples of Furope were ethnically related but also that they all originally came from the Croatian Adriatic.

### The Franciscan Monastery Franjevački samostan

Križa bb. Tel (021) 741 193 Open May-Oct: 9am-noon daily: Nov-Apr: 11am-noon daily.

The monastery, dating from 1461, is located along the coastal path south of the Old Town. The monastery's Church of Our Lady of Charity (Gospa od Milosti), with a relief on the facade by Nikola Firentinac, also contains two paintings by Palma il Giovane (of St Francis Receiving the Stigmata and St Diego), three polyptychs by Francesco da Santacroce, a Christ on the Cross by Leandro



Popular with locals, Mlini beach on the Pakleni Islands

da Bassano, and six scenes inspired by the Passion of Christ by Martin Benetović.

The grave of Renaissance poet Hanibal Lucić can be seen. on the floor of the nave There are also many works of art in the rooms facing the cloister. The Mannerist painting of the Last Supper in the refectory is of uncertain attribution - possibly the work of Matteo Ingoli. Matteo Ponzone or the school of Palma il Giovane.

### **Environs**

The sparsely inhabited Pakleni Islands, just off the coast from Hvar town, are popular bathing,

walking and sailing destinations throughout the summer season. Their name derives from the resin (paklina) that was at one time extracted from the pines and used to waterproof fishing boats.

During the summer boat trips to the islands depart regularly from Hyar. Sveti Klement is the largest of the islands and has most to offer in terms of beaches, walking trails and restaurants. Marinkovac also has good beaches and a popular vachting marina. Be aware that the nearest island, Jerolim, is given over to naturism.

### Hvar

- Cathedral of St Stephen
- (2) Arsenal
- 3 Hektorović Palace
- Benedictine Convent
- (5) Citadel
- 6 Church of St Mark
- Tranciscan Monastery



0 metres	300
0 yards	300





a district of Omiš

Boating on the river in the Cetina Valley Nature Park

### @ Omiš

Map D5, A 6,000, (021) 864 210. (021) 861 025. 7 Trg kneza Miroslava bb. (021) 861 350. Festival klapa (Jul), w visitomis.hr

In the late Middle Ages Omiš was known as the residence of the terrifying corsairs who fought fiercely against Venetian rule from the 12th century until 1444 when the town fell to Venice Today it is a peaceful holiday resort with some light industry along the coast, and the Church of St Peter in Priko. starting point for visits to the vallev of the River Cetina.

In July, the Dalmatinksa Klapa festival attracts many visitors who come to hear Klapa, a kind of plainsong traditional to Dalmatia. It is still very popular. even among the young.

Only a few traces of the Roman municipium of Onaeum remain but many of the medieval defences built by the counts of Kačić and Bribir are still visible on a hill, once the site of the Old Town or Stari grad. These consist of the walls going down to the River Cetina and also the ruins of a large fort (Fortica) with its distinctive high tower. From the fort, built between the 16th and the 17th centuries, there is a splendid view of Omiš and the central Dalmatian islands

There are three interesting religious buildings in the town. One is the Renaissance Church of St Michael (Sv. Mihovil) with a pointed bell tower, originally a defensive structure. Inside is a 16th-century wooden altar, a large 13th-century wooden cross and two paintings by Matteo Ingoli of Ravenna (1587-1631) At the end of

> the main road is the 16thcentury Oratory of

> > the Holy Spirit (Sv. Duh) with Descent of the Holy Spirit by Palma il Giovane (1544-1628)

However the most fascinating monument here is in Priko, on the oppo site bank

of the River Cetina. This is the 10th-century Church of St Peter (Sv. Petar), one of the most appealing pre-Romanesque

churches in Dalmatia. It has a single nave, a dome, and remains from the early Christian period incorporated into the walls

### Fnvirons

The Cetina Valley Nature Park, immediately behind Omiš, shelters a river which flows into the artificial lake of Peruča The river runs out of the lake and parallel to the coast for some distance and then. near Zadvarie, abruptly turns and cascades down before flowing into a narrow gorge. This beautiful natural environment, with its myriad bird species, can be explored on foot or by bicycle, but the most popular way to see it is to take one of the many boats through the park.

### Makarska

Map E5. 🔼 14.000. 📟 Ulica Ante Starčevića 30. (021) 612 333. C Obala kralja Tomislava 1a, (021) 611 977. Obala kralia Tomislava 16. (021) 612 002. W makarska-info.hr

The Makarska coast extends from Brela to Gradac and includes a long stretch of shore with lush vegetation sheltered by the Biokovo massif. Makarska, one of Dalmatia's most popular mainland resorts. lies within a bay sheltered by the peninsula of St Peter's. The town was the site of the Roman Mucurum, which was



The Makarska coast, with white beaches and a mountainous backdrop

destroyed by the Goths in 548, and rebuilt at a later date. It belonged to the Kingdom of Croatia until 1499, when it was conquered by the Turks, for whom it was a port and trading centre until 1646, the beginning of Venetian rule.

There are two ancient monasteries in Makarska. St Philip Neri (Sv. Filipa Nerija) was built in 1757, and has medieval and Roman-era fragments in the cloister. The Franciscan monastery (Franjevački Samostan), built in 1614 on the foundations of a 15th-century monastery, houses the

### Malacological Museum

(Malakološki muzej), with a collection of mollusc shells. The centre of the modern town is the square called Brother Andrija Kačić Miošić, dedicated to the 18th-century Dalmatian scholar and author of theological and philosophical works. Two seafront promenades extend towards the wide beaches and Kalelarga, where there are 18th-century buildings.

IIII Malacological Museum

Franjevački put 1. **Tel** (021) 611 256.

### **@** Gradac

Map E5. 🔼 1,200.

(021) 697 375 (high season only).

This town's fame and popularity are due to the fact that it has one of the longest beaches in the eastern Adriatic Over 6 km



The Franciscan monastery, Makarska, now a museum



The beach at Gradac, one of the longest in the eastern Adriatic

(4 miles) long, the beach is lined with hotels and campsites. In the town itself there are two large 17th-century towers while nearby, in Crkvine, the remains of a Roman staging post between Mucurum (the present-day Makarska) and Narona (see p136) have been found. Gradac gets its name from the fort (grad) built in the 17th century to defend against the Turks.

### Environs

west of Gradac, is a Franciscan monastery (Franjevački samostan) founded in the 16th century and completed a century later. The façade of the church has an inscription written in Cyrillic script. In the rooms around the beautiful cloister there is a fascinating

folklore collection, an art gallery, and a library and archive where documents about the period of Turkish occupation are kept. The Dalmatian scholar Andrija Kačić Miošić (1704–60) lived and died in the monastery.

Around 20 km (12 miles) from Gradac, towards Makarska, is **Živogošće**, one of the oldest settlements on the Makarska coast. Today it is a busy tourist resort, but it was once famous for a spring which flowed from the rocks

A Franciscan monastery was founded near this spring in 1616, and its beautiful church boasts an ornate Baroque altar. The monastery is famous for its well-stocked library and archives, which are the main source for the study of the area around the Biokovo massif.

# The Vineyards of Dalmatia

Vines are grown all along the coast of Dalmatia, and on many of the islands. Vineyards first start appearing around Primošten, near Trogir (see p113), where the



Vines protected by dry-stone walls

good quality red wine Babić is made, and become part of the landscape along the Makarska coast. Built on stony hillsides, these vineyards are often "fortified" with low dry-stone walls, painstakingly constructed with geometrical precision by peasant farmers. Low-growing vines cultivated inside the walls are protected from the cold north winds and kept cool in the hot summer months. A monument to human toil, the result of immense patience and effort, without these walls it would notbe possible to cultivate this difficult ground.



Delta of the River Neretva in Opuzen, drained and turned into fertile fields

### Opuzen

w opuzen.hr

Map E6. 3,250. Metković, (060) 365 365. Trg kralja Tomislava 1, (020) 671 139.

At the edges of the delta of the River Neretva, where the road leaves the Magistrala coast road (E65) and climbs the river valley, stands Opuzen. For centuries it was fortified and has always been considered something of a border town.

or a border town.

Towards the end of the 15th century, the Hungarian-Croat king, Matthias Corvinus, built the fort of Koš here. It was captured by the Turks in 1490 who ruled until 1686, when it came under Venetian rule. There are also traces of a 13th-century castle built by the Republic of Dubrovnik and the remains of a fort (Fort Opus),

built by the Venetians to

defend the border of their

territories. The town takes its

name from this fort and the

ruins can be seen on the

eastern side of town.
On the main square are some fragments discovered in the ancient town of Narona.

### **3** Narona

Map E6. Metković, (060) 365 365.

i (020) 691 596. w a-m-narona.hr

The ancient Roman town of Colonia Julia Narona was founded by the Romans in the 1st century BC. It was an important road junction and a trading centre with the Adriatic hinterland and the region of today's Bosnia-Herzegovina, and had temples, baths, a theatre and other buildings grouped around the Forum. A walled town, it was

Balkans and flourished until the 7th century when it was occupied and destroyed by the Avars and the Slays.

one of the first dioceses in the

At the end of the 19th century, after a few chance discoveries, the Austrian archaeologist Karl Patsch

Head of Emperor Vespasian,
now in Vid's Museum
began to carry out
excavations. Work
continued after
World War II and

world wall lially uncovered objects from pagan and Christian temples, houses and public works. In 1995, a particularly fine temple was discovered. Large parts of the area have still to be explored, but it is possible to get an idea of the importance of the town by visiting the Archaeological Museum Narona in **Vid.** This

village stands on much of the site of ancient Narona, 3 km (2 miles) from Metković. In the museum are statues of Roman emperors and their families, as well as pottery, glassware, weapons, jewels and stone monuments that were found in Narona. A part of the collection is also on display at the Archaeological Museum Solit (see p.125).

The 16th-century Church of St Vitus (Sv. Vid) stands just outside the town on the site of a 5th-century church, of which only parts of the apse remain.

### Neum

Bosnia-Herzegovina. **Map** E6. 2,500. Metković, (060) 365 365. **Metković** neum.ba

All the buses running along the coastal road between Split and Dubrovnik pass through the 9-km (5-mile) stretch of coast that is part of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The main town in this area is Neum, which is a holiday resort and Bosnia's only coastal town. Prices are cheaper here than in Croatia, and as a result it is a popular place for Croatians to stop off and go shopping.

Neum is a border town, and visitors should carry passports. There are several hotels and tourist facilities.

### Peliešac Peninsula

Map F6. R Metković. (060) 365 365. Ston: 65 580 (020) 754 026 Pelieška cesta 2 (020) 754 452 w ston.hr Orebić: 10 2.500. (020) 743 542 (Trpani). 7 Zrinsko Frankonanska 2 (020) 713 718 w visitorebic-croatia.hr

The peninsula of Peliešac juts out 65 km (40 miles) from the mainland, but it is only 7 km (4 miles) wide at its broadest point A mountain chain forms its backbone, which peaks at Mount St Elijah (961 m/3,152 ft). The slopes and plain are covered with vinevards and fruit trees, and the shallow coastal waters are given over to ovster farming.

The peninsula was first colonized by the Greeks, then by the Romans and later by the Byzantines, From 1333 to 1808 it belonged to Dubrovnik.



The Pelješac coast, a centre for oyster farming

#### Ston

The town closest to the mainland, Ston was formerly called Stagnum because of its shallow waters. There have been salt pans here since the time of the Romans, who built a castrum on the site. It was enclosed by walls prior to 1000 AD.

The present defensive walls, still impressive above the town, were begun in the 14th century and completed in the 15th century on orders from Dubrovnik. There are more than 5 km (3 miles) of walls climbing from Veliki Ston. the main heart of the town to St Michael's Mount and descending the opposite

slope until they reach Mali Ston The 41 towers seven bastions and two forts make this one of the largest and most interesting defensive structures in the Adriatic and indeed the world. Some of the best military architects, such as Michelozzo Michelozzi Župan Bunić, Bernardino of Parma. Jurai Dalmatinac and Paskoje Miličević contributed to its design and construction The walls have been under renovation since 2001. The work on a section from Ston to Mali Ston has been finished and it takes about 45 minutes to walk the route.

The main structures are at Valiki Stan, which is built on an irregular pentagonal ground plan. The buildings include the largest fort (Veliki Kaštio): the Neo-Gothic Church of St Blaise (Sv Vlaho) built in 1870 to replace a cathedral from the . 14th century which was destroyed by the earthquake of 1850: the Governor's Palace (Knežev dvor), enlarged in the same century and the Bishon's Palace (1573) The Church and Franciscan Monastery of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikola) was built between the end of the 14th century and the 16th century.

Mali Ston, the other focus of the town, is dominated by Fort Koruna, which dates from 1347. with two arsenals and a fortified warehouse for storing salt. There are wonderful views across the peninsula to the north of the town from here



Franciscan monastery between Orebić and Lovište

#### Orebić

Towards the tip of the peninsula. Orebić is the boarding point for ferries to Korčula. It has a Maritime Museum (Pomorski muzei), which illustrates the history of its inhabitants, who were the most sought-after sea captains in the Mediterranean At the end of their careers these seamen invested in villas along the coast or in the hills. Just outside the village.

towards Lovište is a massive Franciscan Monastery (Franjevački samostan), founded in the 15th century. In the church alongside are two reliefs: one is a Virgin with Child by Nikola Firentinac (1501), who was a pupil of Donatello.

### **IIII** Maritime Museum

Trg Mimbelli bb. Tel (020) 713 009. Open Jun-Sep: 7am-10pm Mon-Fri, 6-10pm Sat & Sun: Oct-May: 7am-3pm Mon-Fri.



Overlooking the circle of walls connecting the two parts of Ston

Dense forests of Aleppo pine, cypress and oak are found all over this island, one of the largest in the Adriatic at 47 km (29 miles) long. Mountains run the length of the island, reaching 560 m (1,837 ft) at their peak. Inhabited since prehistoric times, the Greeks named the island Korkyra Melaina (Black Corfu). After 1000 AD, it was fought over by Venice and the Croat kings and later by the Genoese and the Turks (in the 1298 naval battle between Genoa and Venice, the Genoese captured Marco Polo, said to be a native of the island). Today it is a popular holiday spot for its cliffs and sandy beaches, its villages and Korčula, its main town.



Land Gate, main entrance to the Old Town of Korčula

### Korčula Town

The town sits atop a peninsula, surrounded by strong 13th-century walls, reinforced with towers and bastions by the Venetians after 1420. The whole town is enchanting. The Land Gate (Kopnena vrata) was fortified by a huge tower, the Revelin, which overlooked a canal dug by the Venetians to isolate the town. There are now steps in this area. Narrow streets branching off the

main road are designed to lessen the impact of the bora wind.

Facing Trg sv. Marka, the central square, is the town's main monument: the 14thcentury Cathedral of St Mark (Katedrala Sv. Marka), built in pale, honey-coloured stone. Most of it dates from the end of the 15th century. The skill of Korčula's sculptors and stone masons is evident in the door. where two lions quard the entrance, decorated with thin spiral columns and a lunette with the figure of St Mark attributed to Bonino of Milan Two further doors open onto side aisles. On the left stands an imposing, 30-m (100-ft) bell tower, which visitors may climb.

Inside are large columns with elaborately decorated capitals and several important sculptural works: a 15th-century holy water stoup, a font from the 17th century, and the tomb of Bishop Toma Malumbra, attributed to the workshop of Marko Andrijić, who also made the ciborium in the presbytery in 1481. There is also a statue of St Blaise by Ivan Meštrović. The

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Map E6. 17.000. Obala dr.

#### Transport

from Orebić, Split and Rijeka. Korčula: (020) 711 216. Vela Luka: (020) 715 410.

korcula.eu w tzvelaluka.hr

paintings include St Mark with St Jerome and St Bartholomew by Tintoretto. On a wall are trophies recalling the Battle of Lepanto of 1571.

Next to the cathedral, in the Bishop's Palace, now the Abbot's House, is the **Abbey Treasury** (Opatska riznica), which is particularly known for its Dalmatian and Venetian art, including a polyptych by Blaž



Impressive entrance to the Gothic Cathedral of St Mark, Korčula





Korčula, the main town on the island, on an isthmus on the northeast coast

of Trogir, two altar paintings by Pellegrino of San Daniele, a Sacred Conversation by Titian a Portrait of a Man by Vittore Carpaccio and an Annunciation by Titian A door by Bonino of Milan decorates the Gothic Church of St Peter (Sv. Petar) to the left of the cathedral, Facing St Peter are the Gothic Arneri Palace and the Renaissance Gabriellis Palace (16th century) The latter has been the Town Museum (Gradski muzei) since 1957 and contains documents on Korčula's seafaring history. an interesting archaeological section covering the period from prehistoric to Roman times and other works of art.

Along the seafront is All Saints' Church (Svi Sveti). built in 1301 and remodelled in the Baroque style, which belongs to the oldest confraternity on the island. Inside is an 18th-century carved wooden Pietà, by the Austrian artist George Raphael Donner, and a 15th-century polyptych by Blaž of Trogir. In the nearby quarters of

the confraternity is the Icon Collection (Kolekcija Ikona). which is famous for its rich collection of Byzantine icons from the 13th to 15th centuries, many from Crete.

Outside the walls are the Church and Monastery of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikola), from the 15th century, with many paintings by Dalmatian and Italian artists

### **Mill** Abbey Treasury

Trg sv. Marka. 7 (020) 711 049. Open call for information.

### **IIII** Town Museum

Trg sv. Marka. **Tel** (020) 711 420. Open Apr-Jun: 10am-2pm Mon-Sat; Jul-Sep: 9am-9pm Mon-Sat; Oct-Mar: 10am-1pm: by appt Sun.

#### IIII Icon Collection

Tra Svih Svetih, 7 (020) 711 306 or (091) 883 3879, Open summer: 10am-2pm, 5-8pm Mon-Sat; Sun & winter: by appt.

### Ancient Dances and Festivals

The Moreška and the Kumpanija are Korčula's two most noted folk festivals. Officially, the Moreška sword dance takes place in Korčula on 29 July, the patron saint's day (St Theodore), However, it is repeated on Mondays and Thursdays during the summer for tourists. It commemorates the clash between Christians and Moors in the attempt to free a girl kidnapped by the infidels. In Blato, the Kumpanijia dance is dedicated to the patron saint, St Vincenca, and is celebrated with drum music. At the end of the battle, girls in bright costumes appear. accompanied by pipes and drums. The dance takes place in front of the church on 28 April and is performed once a week for tourists who visit Blato.



Two Moreškants performing the ancient Moreška sword dance





The serene coastline of Lumbarda

#### Lumbarda

Lumbarda is a village 6 km (4 miles) southeast of the town of Korčula and is thought to have been founded by Greeks from Vis. It was called Eraclea by the Romans. In the 16th century it became a holiday resort for the nobles of Korčula. Some inscriptions from the Greek period are now in the Archaeological Museum of Zagreb (see pp.168–9).

Today this village is one of the centres of production for the liqueur-like white wine called Grk, which is made from grapes of the same name grown in the sand. The nearby small beaches are havens of tranquillity.

### Blato

In the central square of Blato, a town where the festival of the Kumpanija (see p139) is held every April, are an 18th-century Baroque loggia, the Renaissance Ameri Castle, where the Civic Museum documenting local history is being set up, and All Saints' Church (Svi Sveti), of medieval origin. This church was enlarged and rebuilt in the 17th century and has an altarpiece of the Virgin with Child and Saints on the main altar by Girolamo di Santacroce (1540)

and, in the chapel, the relics of the martyr St Vincenca, the object of veneration in the local community. The cemetery church of the **Holy Cross** and that of **St Jerome** date from the 14th century.

#### Vela Luka

Situated about 45 km (28 miles) west of Korčula is Vela Luka, called "the oldest and the newest town", because it was built at the beginning of the 19th century on the Neolithic site of Vela Spilja. It is one of the largest towns on the island and industries coexist with attractive bays and numerous islands.

The hills surrounding the town shelter this area from the winds from the north and south. Vela Luka is also the main port on the island and there are regular ferry services to Split and Lastovo.



Baroque loggia, the Renaissance | Lumbarda on the island of Korčula, one of the greenest in the Adriatic



Ancient Roman quarries, Brač

### The Stone of Dalmatia

The excellent quality of the stone in the Dalmatian islands was known to the Romans, who used it to build the monuments of Salona and Diocletian's Palace in Split. On Brač, the old Roman quarries are still visible in Pučišća. Brač stone was used for the cathedral in Šibenik (see pp110-11), for which Juraj Dalmatinac devised a method of cutting the stone so that blocks interlocked without mortar. Most of the palaces and churches in Venice are also made of Dalmatian stone. Further afield, part of the White House in Washington and the Royal Palace in Stockholm were faced with stone from Brač. In Korčula, quarrying ceased long ago, and stone cutting skills have largely died out. However, the guarries on the small island of Vrnik, facing Korčula, are still active and stone from here was used in the church of St Sophia in Istanbul, the Duke's Palace in Dubrovnik and the United Nations building in New York.



Franciscan church and monastery on the island of Badiia

### Badija

Map F6. E taxi-boats from Korčula. w badija.com

This is the largest of the small islands, 1 sq km (0.4 sq m), in the archipelago surrounding the island of Korčula, and is covered with nines and cypress trees. It takes its name from the Franciscan monastery built here in 1392 for a community of monks who had fled from Bosnia. The monastery and church were enlarged in the following century and remained the property of the religious community until 1950, when it became a sports resort.

The church, whose furnishings have been transferred to the Civic Museum and the cathedral in Korčula, has a façade in palecoloured stone and a large central rose window. The

cloister is a good example of Gothic architecture at its most charming, with columns and arches



The Loggia in the main square in Lastovo. a venue for festivals

### @ Lastovo

Map E6. 🔼 800. 🚍 from Vela Luka (island of Korčula), Dubrovnik during summer and from Split, Harbour Master: (020) 805 006. 7 Pievor bb. (020) 801 018. W lastovo.hr

The island of Lastovo. surrounded by about 40 small islands and rocky outcrops, was a military area and thus closed to tourists. The island is 9 km. (5 miles) long and about 6 km (4 miles) wide. Although it is mostly mountainous terrain (Mount Hum reaches a height of 417 m/1 368 ft) vines olives and fruit are cultivated on the terraced slopes. The coast is rocky apart from the bay close to the town of Lastovo.

Traces of the long period of rule by Dubrovnik (1252–1808) are visible in the upper part of the town and in the fort built by the French in 1819 on the site of an earlier castle destroyed by Dubrovnik in 1606.

A church from the 14th century and a 16th-century loggia stand in the main square. Religious festivals are celebrated here.

Mention of the small Church of St Blaise (Sv. Vlaho), situated at the entrance to the village. is found in 12th-century documents. Also of ancient origins, in the cemetery, is the Romanesque Oratory of Our

Lady in the Field (Gospa od Polia) from the 15th century Remnants of buildings and rustic villas testify to the presence of the Romans on the island The lack of tourism has helped to preserve the old buildings.

Religious holidavs are very popular and celebrated with traditional dances with antique musical instruments. The locals wear brightly coloured traditional costumes.



Cluster of houses in the town of Lastovo

# Mljet National Park

Nacionalni park Mljet

The island of Mljet, called Melita by the Romans and Meleda by the Venetians, covers an area of 98 sq km (37 sq miles). It is mountainous, with two limestone depressions in which there are two saltwater lakes linked by a channel. In Roman times Mljet was the holiday resort of the wealthy of Salona, who built villas here. Some ruins can still be seen. In 1151, Duke Desa gave the island to the Benedictines of Pulsano in Gargano (Italy), who founded a monastery here. Two centuries later Stjepan, the Ban (governor) of Bosnia, gave it to Dubrovnik, to which it belonged until 1815. In 1960 the western part was declared a national park to save the forest of Aleppo pine and holm oak.



### Roman Palatium

In Polače lie the ruins of a Roman settlement named Palatium, including the remains of a large villa and an early Christian basilica and thermae.



### Monastery of St Mary

In the centre of Big Lake (Veliko Jezero) is a small island with a 12th-century Benedictine monastery, remodelled in the 1500s. Although currently being restored, it can still be visited.



### Big Lake (Veliko jezero)

The lake covers an area of 1.45 sq km (320 acres) and reaches a depth of 46 m (150 ft). A channel links the lake to the sea, and another channel links it to a smaller lake, Malo jezero.



#### **National Park**

The area of 31 sq km (12 sq miles) is almost entirely forested. The park is home to wild boar, deer, hares, lizards and many bird species.



0 kilometres

0 miles

#### Marine Life

Dozens of species of fish, including grouper, inhabit the underwater ravines and caves along the coast. The most valued creature is the endangered monk seal, protected in these waters.

### The village of Babino Polje

was founded in around the middle of the 10th century by a group of refugees from the mainland. The governor's residence was built in 1554 when the island became part of the territory of the Republic of Ragusa (now Dubrovnik).

#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### **Practical Information**

Map E6. ☑ 1,300. Goveđari: ☑ Polače, Tourist office: (020) 744 186. National Park: (020) 744 041. ☑ ☑ ☑ mljet.hr ☑ np-mljet.hr

### Transport

from Dubrovnik.
The park can be visited on foot or by bicycle following the trails.
Boats must be authorized – call information office for details.





Prožura Okuklje

Maranovići

Korii



#### Uninhabited Islands

Nature is left undisturbed on these islands, with woods of pine, holm oak and oak going right down to the rocky shore.

#### Key

- Minor road
- = Path
- Park border

#### Fishing Villages

The island's ancient stone villages are inhabited mainly by farmers and fishermen. These villages and the delightful bays and coves around the island are lovely places in which to spend time.



Saplunara



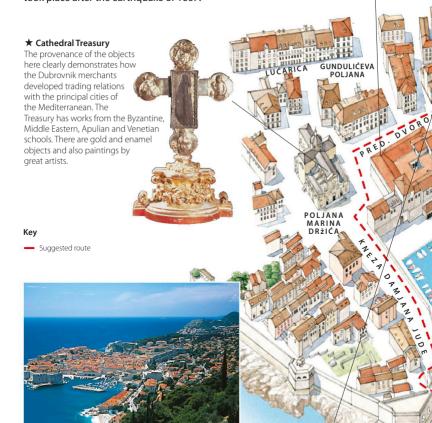


## ® Street-by-Street: Dubrovnik

Set in the limpid waters of the Adriatic, Dubrovnik had been, until war broke out in 1991, one of the top international tourist destinations of Dalmatia, renowned for the beauty of its monuments, its magnificent walls and welcoming atmosphere. According to Emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitus it was founded by fugitives from Roman Epidaurum (now Cavtat) in the 7th century. It came under Byzantine and Venetian (1205–1358) rule, and attained formal independence after 1382, when it became the Republic of Ragusa. In the 15th and 16th centuries its fleet numbered over 500 ships. Artistically it flourished and its wealth was greatly influenced by the discovery of America and new trade routes. Much of the Old Town centre dates from the rebuilding that took place after the earthquake of 1667.



★ Rector's Palace
The highest level of city
government met here. The
rector lived here during his
period of office, which was
limited to one month



#### View of Dubrovnik Lovely views of Dubro

Lovely views of Dubrovnik can be seen from the coast about 2 km (1 mile) to the south, where there is an elevated terrace. From here you can look over the entire city and its walls.

This 16th-century church was rebuilt in the following century. At the beginning of the 18th century, it was redesigned by Marino Groppelli.

Church of St Blaise



Franciscan Monastery and the Rig Fountain of Onofrio

### Sponza Palace

Originating in the 16th century, today the palace houses the State Archives On the lintel is a Latin inscription: "Falsifying and cheating with the weights is forbidden. While Lam weighing the goods, God is measuring me".

> The outer city walls

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Map F6. 43.000. Local: Brsalie 5 (020) 312 011: Regional: Šipčine 2 (020) 324 999. Dubrovnik Summer Festival (Jul-Aug), Local: w tzdubrovnik.hr Regional: w visitdubrovnik.hr

#### Transport

Čilipi. (020) 773 377. 📟 Obala pape Ivana Pavla 11. 44A (060) 305 070 A Harbour Master: (020) 418 988: Jadrolini ia: (020) 418 000



#### ★ Dominican Monastery Since its foundation in

1315, the monastery has played a leading role in cultural activities in the city, Important sculptors and architects played a part in its construction.



Next to the Dominican monastery is the Ploče Gate, which leads to the port. Goods arrived from, and were sent to, every port in the Mediterranean.

VE DOMINIK





Fort of St John To make the city impregnable, the governors employed the most important European architects of the time. This fortress was one

of many bulwarks.



### **Exploring Dubrovnik**

From the autumn of 1991 until May 1992. Dubrovnik was the target of relentless, heavy bombing by Yugoslav troops. During this period over 2,000 bombs and guided missiles fell on Dubrovnik, damaging some of the most significant symbols of Dalmatian culture. Over half the houses and all the monuments were shelled. The war also hit the city's economic activity, especially tourism. which suffered a dramatic decline for four years. Only after the Erdut Agreement of 1995 did life begin to return to normal, UNESCO and the European Union set up a special commission for the reconstruction of the city, and in a remarkably short space of time much of the damage has been repaired. Dubrovnik has now regained much of its former splendour and tourism is once again flourishing.



Splendid view from the impressive city walls

#### ₩ Walls Gradske zidine

(020) 324 641. **Open** Jun & Jul: 8am-7:30pm; Apr, May, Aug & Sep: 8am-6:30pm; Oct: 8am-4pm; Nov-Mar: 9am-3pm. Access to the walls near the Franciscan monastery in Poliana Paška Miličevića, the large square behind Pile Gate near the Dominican monastery.

A symbol of Dubrovnik, the walls offer splendid views from the guards' walkway. They were built in the 10th century, with modifications in the 13th century. They were then reinforced at various times by great architects such as Michelozzo Michelozzi and Antonio Ferramolino.

The walls and ramparts are 1,940 m (6,363 ft) long and reach a height of 25 m (82 ft) in some parts. Those facing inland are up to 6 m (20 ft) wide and strengthened by an outer wall with ten semicircular bastions. Other towers and the Fort of St John defend the part facing

the Adriatic and the port. Completing the defences to the east and west of the city are two fortresses: the Revelin and the fortress of Lovrijenac.

### Pile Gate Gradska vrata Pile

This is the main entrance to the old fortified centre. The stone bridge leading to Pile Gate is



Pile Gate, leading to the Old Town



The solid Minčeta Tower, part of the wall defences

from 1537. The bridge crosses a moat which is now a garden. The gate is a strong defensive structure built on different levels. In a niche above the ogival arch stands a small statue of St Blaise, the patron saint of Dubrovnik, by Ivan Meštrović, In the ramparts between the inner and outer walls is a Gothic door dating from 1460.

#### Minčeta Tower Tvrđava Minčeta

This is the most visited of the walls' defensive structures. It was designed by Michelozzo Michelozzi in 1461 and completed by Jurai Dalmatinac three years later. The semicircular tower is crowned by a second tower with embrasures at the top.

#### **⊞** Ploče Gate Vrata od Ploča

The gate faces a small port and is preceded by the polygonal Asimov Tower. Dating from the 1300s, the gate is reached by an imposing stone bridge. A moat separates the gate and Revelin

Fort (Tvrđava Revelin), designed in 1538 by Antonio Ferramolino, It was the last of the defences to be built. The city's art treasures were brought here for safety in times of difficulty because of the fort's strength. The Lazareti served as a quarantine from the late 14th century, separating goods from ailing travellers. Today they are occupied by shops and entertainment facilities.

#### Fort of St John Tvrđava sv. Ivana

Aguarium: Tel (020) 323 978

Onen Jun-Sen: 9am-9nm daily: Oct-May: 9am-1pm Mon-Sat Maritime Museum: Tel (020) 323 904. Open Apr-Oct: 9am-6pm Tue-Sun: Nov-Mar: 9am-4pm Tue-Sun

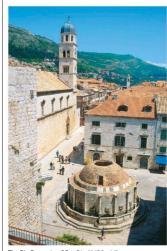
A chain once helped to defend the harbour, stretching from this fort to the island in front and then across to the Tower of St Luke (Kula sv. Luke) along the walls.

The upper areas of the fort house the Maritime Museum (Pomorski muzei), where the seafaring history of Dubrovnik is told through model ships. standards, prints, diaries and portraits

On the lower level is an aquarium (akvarii) with an assortment of Mediterranean marine life, including sea horses. symbol of the institution. At the top is the circular **Bokar Fort** (Tvrđava Bokar), built by Michelozzo Michelozzi

#### Big Fountain of Onofrio Velika Onofrijeva fontana

This is one of the best-known monuments in the city It stands in the square



The Big Fountain of Onofrio (1438-44)

which opens out immediately after the Pile gate. It was built in 1438-44 by the Neapolitan architect Onofrio de la Cava, who was also

responsible for designing the city's water supply system. He decided to draw the water from the River Dubrovačka for this nurnose The imposing fountain once had two storevs. but the upper level was destroyed in the earthquake of 1667.

Tucked between the city walls and the Franciscan monastery is the Church of St Saviour (Sv. Spas). The facade of the church is an example of Venetian-Dalmatian Renaissance architecture a style dating from after the earthquake of 1520.

### **Dubrovnik Town Centre**

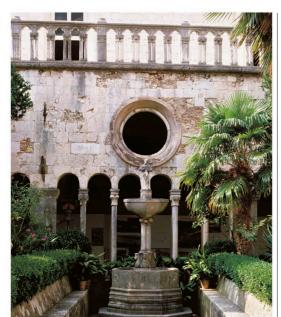
- Walls
- Pile Gate
- Minčeta Tower
- Ploče Gate
- ⑤ Fort of St John
- Big Fountain of Onofrio
- (7) Franciscan Monastery (8) Stradun (Placa)
- Square of the Loggia
- (10) Sponza Palace

- (1) Church of St Blaise
- (12) Rector's Palace
- (3) Cathedral and Treasury
- (4) Dominican Monastery
- (3) Dubrovnik Cable Car

## Key

Street-by-Street pp146-





The lovely late Romanesque cloister, Franciscan monastery

## f Franciscan Monastery Franievački samostan

Placa 2. **Tel** (020) 321 410. **Open** summer: 9am–6pm daily; winter: 9am–2pm daily. Franciscan Museum: **Open** Apr–Oct: 9am–6pm daily; Nov–Mar: 9am–2pm daily. Nov–Mar: 9am–2pm daily.

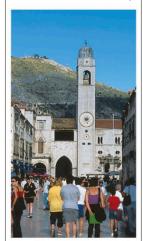
Construction of the monastery began in 1317 and was completed in the following century. It was almost entirely rebuilt after the earthquake in 1667, but the south door (1499), in Venetian Gothic decorated with a Pietà in the lunette, and a 15th-century marble pulpit escaped damage. The cloister. which was completely undamaged by the earthquake, reveals elements of the Romanesque and the Gothic style and has a fountain from the 15th century in the centre

One side of the cloister leads to the **pharmacy** (Stara ljekarna), in use since 1317, where alembics, mortars, measuring apparatus and beautifully decorated jars are displayed on the old shelves.

The capitular room of the monastery houses the **Franciscan Museum** (Muzej Franjevačkog samostana), which has religious works of art and objects belonging to the order. Instruments from the pharmaceutical laboratory are kept here.

### Stradun (Placa)

The wide street that crosses the city from east to west between two city gates is known as Stradun or Placa. It was constructed in the 12th century



Stradun, the main street of Dubrovnik

by draining and filling in the marshy channel that separated the island of Ragusa from the mainland. The street was paved in 1468 and a series of stone houses was built after the earthquake of 1667. Today the street is lined with busy bars and cafés, and is a popular place for locals and visitors to gather in the evening.

## Square of the Loggia

This square, the political and economic heart of Dubrovnik, is situated at the eastern end of Stradun and surrounded by important buildings. Today it is still a popular meeting place, in particular around **Orlando's Column**, which was built by the sculptor Antonio Ragusino (1418).

On the eastern side of the square is a **Clock Tower** (Gradski zvonik). Repair work carried out in 1929 restored a 15th-century look to the Clock Tower. The nearby

Loggia of the Bell, with four bells, dates from 1463. The bells were rung to call the citizens to gather whenever danger threatened.

Next to this stands the Main Guard House, rebuilt in 1706 after the earthquake of 1667. It has a large Baroque doorway, similar to a city gate, and is enlivened on the first floor by the Gothic mullioned windows, reminiscent of the earlier building which was built in the late 15th century.

The **Small Fountain of Onofrio** (Mala Onofrijeva česma), dating from 1438, stands alongside the Guard House.

## Sponza Palace Palača Sponza

**Tel** (020) 321 032. **Open** May–Oct: 9am–10pm daily; Nov–Apr: 10am–3pm daily.

To the left of the square is Sponza Palace. Remodelled in 1516–22, it has an elegantly sculpted Renaissance loggia on the ground floor and a beautiful Venetian Gothic three-mullioned window on the first floor, evidence of its 14th-century origins, and a statue of St Blaise on the upper floor It was the Mint in the 14th century and now houses the State Archives

#### (†) Church of St Blaise Crkva sv Vlaha

Loža. **Tel** (020) 323 887. Open 8am-noon, 4:30-7pm daily. St Blaise was rebuilt in the early decades of the 18th century according to a 17th-century design and contains many Baroque works of art.

On the main altar stands a statue of the patron saint. Blaise. Produced in the 15th century in gold-plated silver, it depicts the saint holding a model of the city in the Middle Ages



Baroque facade of the church of St Blaise

#### Rector's Palace Knežev dvor

Pred Dyorom 3 Tel (020) 321 422 Open Apr-Oct: 9am-6pm daily: Nov-Mar: 9am-4pm daily. 2

The Rector's Palace was for centuries the seat of the most important government institutions of the Dubrovnik Republic, It housed the Upper and Lower Council, as well as the rector's quarters and rooms for meetings and audiences. The building was constructed in the early 15th century on the site of a medieval fortress, and designed by the Italian architect Onofrio de la Cava. In 1465 the portico by Petar Martinov from Milan was added. The Gothic works are by Juraj Dalmatinac.

The rooms of the palace house the interesting Cultural **Historical Museum** 



Rector's Palace, built in the 15th century as the administrative seat

(Kulturno-povijesni muzei). which contains 15 collections of historic items created in art and craft workshops throughout Furone between the 16th and 20th centuries. On the ground floor an authentic jail space. court notary and archives have been preserved and presented. Coins, medals, stamps and measures ancient weapons and numerous other works of art as well as an inventory of the state pharmacy "Domus Christi" are on display on the mezzanine floor. On the first floor, rooms contain valuable objects from the 16th-18th centuries

Also of great interest are the portraits of illustrious nersonalities who were born or lived in Dubrovnik, whose history is told through their heraldic coats of arms. During the Festival of Dubrovnik concerts are held in the atmospheric internal courtvard.

Next door is the 1863 Neo-Renaissance Town Hall (Vijećnica), designed by Emilio Vecchietti. It is also the home of the café Gradska Kavana (see p241) and the Civic Theatre.

### (†) Cathedral and Treasury Velika Gospa

Kneza Damjana Jude 1. Open Apr-Oct: 8am-5pm Mon-Sat, 11am-5pm Sun; Nov-Mar: 8am-noon, 3-5pm Mon-Sat, 11am-noon, 3-5pm Sun. Cathedral Treasury: Tel (020) 323 459. Open same times as the cathedral.

The cathedral was built after the earthquake of 1667 by the Roman architects Andrea Buffalini and Paolo Andreotti. Inside are three aisles enclosed by three apses. Paintings by Italian and Dalmatian artists

from the 16th-18th centuries decorate the side altars, while an Assumption by Titian (c.1552) dominates the main altar.

Alongside the church is the Cathedral Treasury (Riznica Katedrale), famous for its collection of about 200 reliquaries. It includes the arm of St Blaise which dates from the 13th century, and a Holy Cross which contains a fragment of the cross on which Jesus was said to have been crucified. The tondo Virain of the Chair is thought to have been painted by Raphael himself and is a copy of the masterpiece which is now in Florence

The treasury also has an extraordinary collection of sacred objects in gold, including a pitcher and basin in gold and silver with decoration that illustrates the flora and fauna of the area around Dubrovnik



The great dome of Dubrovnik's Baroque cathedral



The interior at the church of St Dominic, inside the monastery

### **†) Dominican Monastery Dominikanski samostan Bijeli fratri** Od sv. Dominika 4. **Tel** (020) 321 423.

Od sv. Dominika 4. **Tel** (020) 321 423. **Open** May–Oct: 9am–6pm; Nov–Apr: 9am–5pm.

Building began in 1315 and it soon became clear that because of the size of the complex, the city walls would have to be enlarged. The monastery was later rebuilt after the earthquake of 1667.

A long flight of steps with a stone balustrade leads up to the church. The door, the work of Bonino of Milan, is decorated with a Romanesque statue of St Dominic. The interior has a wide single nave and, hanging from the central arch, a splendid gilded panel (Crucifix and Symbols of the Evangelists) by Paolo Veneziano (14th century).

The various rooms of the monastery, arranged around the Gothic cloister by Maso di Bartolomeo (15th century), house the **Dominican Museum** (Muzej Dominikanskog samostana). It contains an extraordinary collection of works from the so-called "Dubrovnik school", including a triptych and an Annunciation by Niccolò Ragusino, from the 16th century, and works from the Venetian school, including St Blaise, St Mary Magdalene, the Angel Tobias and the Purchaser by Titian, as well as precious reliquaries and objects in gold and silver.

## Dubrovnik Cable Car

Lower station, Petra Krešimira IV bb. **Tel** (020) 414 321. **Open** Feb, Mar & Nov: 9am–5pm daily; Apr & Oct: 9am–8pm daily; May: 9am–9pm daily; Jun–Aug: 9am–midnight daily; Sep: 9am–10pm daily; Dec & Jan: 9am–4pm daily.

dubrovnikcablecar.com

Destroyed in 1991, the cable car that connects Dubrovnik City Walls and Mount Srd is operational again. The route takes three and a half minutes, and offers wonderful views.

#### Environs

The island of **Lokrum**, 700 m (2,296 ft) across the water from Dubrovnik, is a nature reserve.

The first people to settle on the island were the Benedictines, who founded an abbey here in 1023. This was rebuilt in the 14th century, but later destroyed by the earthquake of 1667. In 1859, Archduke Maximilian of Habsburg built a palace here and renovated the cloister which later became the Natural History Museum.

In **Trsteno**, 20 km (12 miles) northwest of Dubrovnik, is an Arboretum. This was begun in 1502 in the park around a villa built by Ivan Gučetić. The park has the layout of a Renaissance garden with grottoes and ruins.

There are several Renaissance summer houses around Dubrovnik, including the **Villa Stay** in Rijeka Dubrovačka.

### Elaphite Islands

Map F6. 2,000. from
Dubrovnik. Dubrovnik regional
tourist office (020) 324 999.

Lying to the north of Dubrovnik, the Elaphite Islands (Elafitski otoci) can be reached from Dubrovnik by motorboat. There are several daily crossings. The islands were described by the natural historian Pliny the Elder, who named them after the fallow deer then found here.

Only three of the islands are inhabited: Šipan, Lopud and Koločep, while Jakljan is devoted to farming.

Characteristics common to the islands are the woods of maritime pines and cypresses in the uncultivated areas and beautiful beaches and bays frequented by

A statue in the islands have long been Arboretum in Trsteno aristocracy of Dubrovnik, who built villas here

Some islands had monasteries which were suppressed with the arrival of French troops in 1808. Many of the churches date from the pre-Romanesque period, but few, however, are still intact.

#### Koločep

This is the nearest island to Dubrovnik and for this reason has been a summer retreat since the 16th century for its citizens. Most of the island is covered in maritime pines and subtropical undergrowth.



Island of Lokrum in front of Dubrovnik, a protected nature reserve



Šunj beach on the southeast coast of Lopud, one of the Elaphite islands

The churches of **St Anthony** and **St Nicholas** have pre-Romanesque origins, while the **Parish Church** dates from the 15th century.

#### Lopud

The island, measuring 4.6 sq km (1.7 sq miles), has a fertile valley sheltered from the cold winds by two ranges of hills. Most of the inhabitants live in Lonud a village in a bay. The two forts. now in ruins date from the 16th century and the Franciscan monastery is from 1483. The monastery church, St Mary of Spilica (Sv. Marija od Špilica). contains a polyptych by Pietro di Giovanni (1520), a triptych by Nikola Božidarević, a painting by Leandro da Bassano, a triptych by Gerolamo di Santacroce and a carved choir from the 15th century.

**Šunj**, in the southeast, draws visitors because of its sandy beach, but the church is also worth visiting for its many works of art, including a painting by Palma il Giovane and a polyptych (1452) by Matej Junčić.

### Šipan

This is the largest of the Elaphite Islands (15.5 sq km/6 sq miles) and there are two towns. In **Sipanska Luka** stands the pre-Romanesque church of St Michael and the ruins of a Benedictine monastery. In **Suđurađ** there is a castle and the ruins of a bishop's palace.

### © Cavtat

Map F6. ⚠ 2,500. ➡ from Dubrovnik, (020) 478 065. ➡ from Dubrovnik.

☑ Zidine 6, (020) 478 025.

☒ Summer in Cavtat, Epidaurus
Festival. ☒ visit.cavtat-konavle.com

Cavtat is the Croatian name for Civitas Vetus, the site of the Roman town of Epidaurum, destroyed by the Avars in the 7th century (occasional excavations have revealed the remains of a theatre, several tombs and parts of a road).

The beauty of the area, the beaches, the luxuriant vegetation and the monuments attract many visitors to the present-day village.

The **Baltazar Bogišić Collection**, assembled and donated by the scholar and jurist of the 19th century, whose birthplace this is, is

housed in the 16th-century **Rector's Palace**. The works of the painter Vlaho Bukovac are especially fine.

At the end of the seafront is the church of **Our Lady of Snow** (Gospa Snježna) and a Franciscan monastery, both from the end of the 15th century. On the hilltop stands the **Račić Mausoleum** built by Ivan Meštrović (see p.163) in 1922.

### Konavle

Map F6. Zidine 6, Cavtat, (020) 478 025. w visit.cavtat-konayle.com

The area southeast of Cavtat occupies a narrow piece of land between the sea and the mountains of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Its name derives from the channels (canalis) which collected the water to supply the aqueduct – of which some traces remain – for the Roman town of Epidaurum.

The hilly areas are covered in vineyards and olive groves. The small villages maintain the old customs and traditional costumes are still worn by the inhabitants. Konavle was heavily damaged by bombing in 1991.

This area is also renowned for its excellent cuisine and there are numerous restaurants.

One of the best known is **Konavoski Dvori**, housed in a watermill near the waterfalls of the River Liuta.



The pretty seafront and port of Cavtat



## **7AGRFR**

The capital of Croatia, Zagreb is also the heart of the political, economic and cultural life of the country. Surrounded by woods and parks, the city lies between the slopes of Mount Medvednica to the north and the River Sava to the south. Located at the centre of continental Croatia, this Central European city constitutes a meeting point between eastern and western Europe.

The political scientist Max Weber once declared that the quality of life in a city could be measured by the number of its cultural institutions. Zagreb has over 20 museums, 10 theatres, 350 libraries. a university, and lively programmes of artistic and cultural events. This is not just because 7agreb is the capital (it has only been the capital since 1991), but is also due to the leading cultural and political role that Zagreb has played over the centuries

Zagreb was originally two separate medieval towns. Two settlements were built on two adjacent hilltops: Kaptol. the centre of religious power and a bishopric from 1094, and Gradec (now part of Gornii grad). In 1242, with the proclamation of a "Golden Bull", Gradec was given the title of royal free city by

the Croat-Hungarian King Bela IV. This granted various economic and administrative privileges to the inhabitants. From the 16th century onwards Gradec was also where the Ban - the governor of Croatia delegated by the Hungarian kingdom – and the Croat parliament carried out their business and where Croat nobles met to govern this turbulent territory. The two towns were both fortified with ramparts, towers, moats and gates, and separated by the Medveščak stream. The stream was often the site of violent clashes between Gradec and Kaptol, and that time is vividly recalled by the street called the Bridge of Blood (Kryavi most).

In 1880, a terrible earthquake struck the city and many of the major monuments date from after this time



Colourful Dolac market, held in the square of the same name

■ The famous polychromatic tiled roof of the Church of St Mark

The city is divided into two large sectors; the Old Town (Gornii grad or Upper Town), which includes the two districts of Gradec and Kaptol, situated in the hills, and the modern area (Donji grad or Lower Town) on the plain. The large square dedicated to the Croat governor Jelačić (Trg bana Jelačića) is where the upper and lower towns meet. The Old Town is home to the main centres of religious, political and administrative power. The more modern part developed after 1830 around a U-shaped series of parks and open spaces (known as the "green horseshoe"). The major museums, including the Ethnographic Museum, Mimara Museum, Gallery of Old Masters and Modern Gallery, are all located here, as well as the National Theatre. To the south of a series of gardens with sculptures lies the Botanical Garden. Around Jelačić Square there are plenty of cafés with summer terraces.

0 metres	200
0 yards	200

## Sights at a Glance

#### Museums and Galleries

- Zagreb City Museum
- Meštrović Atelier
- Croatian History Museum
- Croatian Museum of Naive Art
- Museum of Arts and Crafts
- Mimara Museum
- 20 Ethnographic Museum
- Art Pavilion
- 3 Gallery of Old Masters pp170-71 2 Modern Gallery
- Archaeological Museum
- 28 Museum of Contemporary Art

#### Churches

- Cathedral of the Assumption. of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 3 Church of St Francis
- 4 Church of St Mary

- Church of St Mark
- and Methodius
- Church of St Catherine

### Palaces and Other Buildings

- Archbishop's Palace
- Stone Gate
- Parliament Building
- Wiceroy's Palace
- Tower of Lotrščak
- Croatian National Theatre
- Art Pavilion

### Parks and Gardens

- 2 Botanical Garden of the Faculty of Science
- Maksimir Park
- Mirogoj Cemetery







### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Map D2. 🔼 780,000.

↑ Trg bana Jelačića 11, (01) 481 40 51. ♂ Smotra folklora, Folklore Festival (Jul); Zagrebačke ljetne večeri,

Zagreb Summer Festival.

#### Transport

at Velika Gorica, Pleso,

(01) 626 52 22, 17 km (10 miles) SE.

Glavni Kolodvor, (060) 333 444.

Avenija Marina Držića 4, (060)

313 333.



Zagreb skyline

### **Getting Around**

The districts of the Old Town, Kaptol and Gronji grad, are mostly pedestrian areas, as is the central Jelačić square, which is served by tram routes joining the eastern and western parts of the city (see pp280–81). The Jarun sailing centre, near the river, can also be reached by tram. Buses going to Novi Zagreb, on the other side of the River Sava (where there is a racetrack, exhibition area and the Museum of Contemporary Art) leave from the main rail station.

#### Key

Major sight

Places of interest
Pedestrian zone

- Funicular line

For keys to symbols see back flap

### Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Katedrala Mariiina Uznesenia

Kaptol, Tel (01) 481 47 27, Open 10am-5pm Mon-Sat, 1-5pm Sun.

Dedicated to the Assumption and St Stephen, this is the most famous monument in the city. Its present appearance dates from renovations carried out by Friedrich von Schmidt and Hermann Bollé after the earthquake of 1880. which destroyed the dome, the bell tower and some of the walls The rebuilding which retained the medieval plan of the cathedral. was just the latest in a series of alterations the building had undergone in its long history. The building was already in existence in 1094 when King Ladislaus transferred the bishopric here from Sisak. Destroyed by the Mongols in 1242, the cathedral was rebuilt by Bishop Timotej a few years later. In the centuries that followed, the side aisles were added and the church was decorated with statues and reliefs.

The new Neo-Gothic facade (1880) is flanked by twin spires. The facade has a large ornate doorway with sculpted decorations, a rose window and three high windows the whole crowned by a tympanum.

The interior has three aisles and a polygonal apse During a late 19th-century reorganization, the Baroque and Rococo altars were transferred to other churches in the diocese, and as a result only a few Gothic and Renaissance works remain. These works include a statue of St Paul (13th century) wooden statues of the saints Peter and Paul from the 15th century. a triptych entitled Golaotha (1495) by Albrecht Dürer and a 14th-century Crucifixion by Giovanni da Udine.

Decorative detail of one of and votive chapels the cathedral spires of bishops and important

> personalities in Croatian history, such as Petar Zrinski. Krsto Frankopan and the blessed Cardinal Aloizije Stepinac, whose tomb behind the main altar is by Ivan Meštrović

The cathedral also

contains the tombs

Of great interest are the frescoes from the Giottoesque school in the sacristy: the oldest (12th century) in inland Croatia. In the basement of the bishop's sacristy, the Cathedral Treasury preserves a rich collection of religious



The central nave in the Neo-Gothic Cathedral of the Assumption

objects. These include illuminated manuscripts, finely crafted church ornaments from the 11th to the 20th centuries and objects of veneration such as the Cloak of King Ladislaus (11th century), a bishop's veil from the 14th century and the so-called Sepulchre of God. This last piece was made by the embroiderers of the village of Vugrovec, where Bishop Petar Petretić founded an embroidery school in around 1650. Among the oldest works are a 10th-century ivory diptych and a bronze crucifix from the 11th-12th centuries.

### Archbishop's Palace

Nadbiskupska palača

Kaptol. Closed to the public.

The enormous Baroque buildings comprising the Archbishop's Palace enclose the other three sides of the cathedral square. The building incorporates three of the five round towers and one square tower, which were part of the fortifications built from 1469 as defence against Turkish attacks. The present palace dates from 1730, when several buildings were linked and united by an imposing Baroque façade.

Inside the complex is the Romanesque chapel of St Stephen Protomartyr (13th century). This is the oldest building in Zagreb to have



Elaborate twin spires of the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

survived in its original form: the frescoes are from the 14th century

In the square in front of the palace stands a fountain with a column crowned by a statue of Mary with four angels, the work of the Viennese artist Anton Dominik Fernkorn (1813-78) in around 1850

The moats that once surrounded the walls have been filled in and turned into the Ribniak Public Gardens, with various statues including one called Modesty by Antun Augustinčić (1900-79). The defences were partially demolished in the 19th century. however At No. 18 ulica Kantol opposite the cathedral is the Northeast Tower, which is now a residence At No. 15 stands the Northwest Tower (Prišlinova kula), now part of a 15th-century building.



Archbishop's Palace by the Cathedral of the Assumption

### Church of St Francis

Sv. Franjo

Kaptol 9. Tel (01) 481 11 25. Open 7am-noon, 3-7pm daily.

Founded, according to legend, after St Francis's return from the Fast, this church dates from the 13th century. After the earthquake of 1880, the church was rebuilt in the Neo-Gothic style. It was at this time that the Baroque altars were removed. Some of the side altars are Neo-Gothic,



Stained-glass windows by Ivo Dulčić in the Church of St Francis

while on the main altar there is a fine painting of St Francis by Celestin Medović (1857– 1920). The brightly coloured stained-alass windows were designed by Ivo Dulčić in the 1960s

In the adiacent 17th-century monastery, where the saint supposedly staved, is the much-visited chapel of St Francis (1683), with ornate stucco decorations and Baroque paintings.

### 4 Church of St Marv

Sv. Marija

Dolac 2 **Tel** (01) 481 49 59 Open for Mass

Opatovina is a narrow street where some of the houses were built using parts of the late-15th-century fortifications. The street leads into the ancient district of Dolac at the end of which stands the Church of St Marv. which dates from the 14th century. It was rearranged in 1740 when several Baroque altars were built by Franio Rottman. but its present appearance dates back to rebuilding after the earthquake in 1880.

Near the church

stands a statue by Vania Radauš of the legendary wanderer and minstrel Petrica Kerempuh playing to the figure of a hanged man.

The large picturesque Dolac Market which was first held in 1930 takes place around the church This is a characteristic district of the city where Baroque houses face narrow streets and lanes A historic pharmacy is at No. 19 Kantol and an ancient house at No. 7

### Stone Gate

Kamenita vrata

Kamonita

In the walls around Gradec. the part of Upper Town built on a neighbouring hill to Kaptol, there were once five gates. Stone Gate is now the only one of these remaining. It was built in the 13th century, and stands beside a square tower from 1266. In 1731 a fire destroyed all the nearby houses but a painting of Mary with Child on the gate was left undamaged. A chapel was established around this painting and a Baroque wrought-iron grille now protects the work, attributed to a local master from the 16th century.

On the west facade of the church is a statue of a woman. a character from a famous Croation novel and the work of the sculptor Ivo Kerdić in 1929.

On the other side of the gate. on the corner of Kamenita and Habdelićeva, stands an 18th-century building. On the ground floor of this building is a pharmacy (Alighieri ljekarna) which has been in existence

> which, from 1399 onwards, belonged to Nicolò Alighieri, the greatgrandson of the great Italian writer Dante.



The monument to Petrica Kerempuh, Dolac

## Street-by-Street: the Upper Town (Gornii grad)

In the Upper Town there are various institutions which have played a significant part in the history of the city and of Croatia. They now house the political and cultural centres of the country: the presidency of the Republic, Parliament, the State Audit Court and several government ministries. All of these buildings were restored, repaired or rebuilt after the terrible earthquake of 1880. Some of the ancient noble palaces have been converted into museums. There are also three interesting churches: the ancient church of St Mark. the Baroque church of St Catherine built by the Jesuits, and the church of Saints Cyril and Methodius. The daily signal to close the city gates was rung from the medieval tower of Lotrščak (Turris Latruncolorum)

### ♠ Croatian Natural History Museum

Created from three collections, the museum houses most of the finds from Krapina, which date human. presence in Croatia back to the Palaeolithic era

DEWETROY

#### Wicerov's Palace

The building dates from the 17th century and was built after the city became the seat of the Ban (governor of Croatia) in 1621. It now houses the presidency of the Republic.



#### Croatian History Museum

This museum, housed in the Voiković-Oršić-Kalmer-Rauch palace, has works of art and documents collected since 1959.



#### ★ Croatian Museum of Naive Art

A wonderful collection of Classical Croatian Naive paintings and sculptures are on display at this museum.

### Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius

The state of the s

Built by Orthodox Christians in the first half of the 19th century, the church, designed by Bartol Felbinger, has a fine iconostasis.

#### Tower of Lotrščak

At noon every day a cannon is fired from this tower, which dates from the 12th century.

Suggested route



3 A S A R I Č E K O VA

M A R K O V T R G

KAMENITA

EZUITSK TRG

★ Meštrović Atelier

The great Croatian sculptor Ivan Meštrović lived in this 18th-century building from 1922 to 1941. About ten years before his death he donated his home and all the works of art in it to the state



**Locator Map** 



This building dates from 1910, when the provincial administration offices were enlarged. The independence of Croatia was proclaimed from the central window of the building in 1918.



**②** ★ Church of St Mark

The coloured tiles on the roof of this fine Gothic church form the coats of arms of Croatia, Dalmatia, Slavonia and Zagreb.



all that remains of the five original gates constructed around the Gradec area in the 13th century.



Jesuit monastery.



### (6) Church of St Catherine

Built on the site of an ancient Dominican church, this is the city's most fascinating Baroque building.



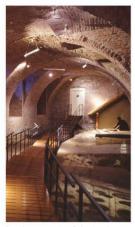
### Zagreb City Museum

Muzei arada Zaareba

Opatička ulica 20. **Tel** (01) 485 13 61 Open 10am-6pm Tue-Fri: 11am-7pm Sat, 10am-2pm Sun. 6 by appt. Masarykova 21. Open 10am-5pm Thu, Krleža residence: Krležin Gvozd 23. Open 11am-5pm Tue. Duiśin-Ribar residence: Demetrova 3/II. Open 11am-5pm Tue. w mgz.hr

Three historic buildings (the 17th-century nuns' convent of St Clare, a 12th-century tower. and a 17th century granary) have been linked to form the Zagreb City Museum. Its collection of historic, cultural, military and domestic artifacts, many donated by prominent townspeople, are arranged in themed displays illustrating every facet of the city's development, from prehistory to the present day.

Across the city, the museum also maintains the former residences of some of Croatia's most celebrated recent figures: that of the architect Viktor Kovačić (1878–1924): the writer Miroslav Krleža (1893–1981) and his wife Bela; plus the poet and painter Cata Duišin-Ribar (1897– 1994) and her two husbands, the actor/theatre director Dubravko Duišin and the politician Dr Ivan Ribar, The period furnishings, decor and works of art in each are perfectly preserved, making fascinating short tours.



Partial reconstruction of a late Iron Age workshop, Zagreb City Museum



Sculptures in the garden of the Meštrović Atelier

### Croatian Natural **History Museum**

Hrvatski prirodoslovni muzei

Demetrova 1. **Tel** (01) 485 17 00. Open 10am-5pm Tue-Fri (to 8pm Thu), 10am-7pm Sat, 10am-1pm Sun, W hpm.hr

The 18th-century Amadeo Palace, a theatre from 1797 to 1834, has been the Natural History Museum since 1868. when collections from the Department of Natural Science at the National Museum were transferred here. At the end of the 19th century there were

three museums of natural history: Mineralogy and Petrography, Geology and Palaeontology, and Zoology. These three meraed in 1986 to form the present museum.

There are over 2.500.000 exhibits. including minerals from all over the world and palaeontology collections containing some of the material found in Krapina. The zoological collection documents every species of animal found in Croatia.

## Meštrović Atelier

Atelje Meštrović

Mletačka 8. Tel (01) 485 11 23. Open 10am-6pm Tue-Fri. 10am-2pm Sat & Sun, 2 1 1 w mestrovic.hr

The atelier building dates from the 17th century: the sculptor Ivan Meštrović himself modernized it to live in from 1922 to 1942. It now houses a collection of his work. It is part of The Museums of Ivan Meštrović, together with the Gallery and the Kaštilac in Split, as well as the burial chapel in Otavice (see p112).

> There are almost 100 works on display. including exhibits in the courtyard -History of Croatia, Laookon of our Days and Woman in Agony. The drawings, models and sculptures in wood, stone and bronze testify to the

expressive ability and great skills of the sculptor. His personal archives are also here, as well as photographic records and works by other artists associated with the master.



Croatian Natural History Museum

## Ivan Meštrović

Regarded as one of the most important sculptors of the 20th century, Ivan Meštrović was born in 1883 in Vrpolie where his parents had gone for the harvest from their native village of Otavice in the Dalmatian hinterland. As a young boy he delighted in making figures out of wood, and his work was noticed by the village mayor and by Luio Marun, an archaeologist, who sent him to Split when he was 17 to study sculpture. Thanks to donors, he was able to attend the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, where he designed works for later production. Here he met and became friends with the great French sculptor. Auguste Rodin, In 1908 he moved to Paris and his first exhibition established his reputation. He worked in various cities, including Split – creating many of the works now on show in the Meštrović gallery there – and Zagreb. He also took up politics: during World War II he was imprisoned by the Nazi regime and freed on the Vatican's intervention. He then moved to Rome where he sculpted the Pietà Romana, now in the Vatican Museum. After the war he taught at universities in the US, where he died in 1962. He was buried in the burial chapel in Otavice (see p112) that he designed for himself and his family.



Meštrović. intent on his work

Detail of the Resurrection of Lazarus (1940)

### Woman by the Sea

is a splendid female figure in marble (1926) which seems to twist around on itself The form of the hody is vigorous and vet the hands are delicate and slender



### The Sculptor at Work

The speed at which Mestrović executed his works was proverbial, although the preparation time was lengthy. To satisfy demand, he replicated his works in wood, marble and bronze. Three copies, not auite identical, exist of the statue of the Bishop of Nin, in Nin, Split and Varaždin,

#### Mother and Child is a wooden sculpture from 1942 which demonstrates the artist's great expressive talent. The figure of the child is almost insignificant, leaving the face of the mother to play the main role.





History of Croatia is a work from 1932. There are four originals; one in bronze is in the Meštrović Atelier in Zagreb. The woman's thoughtful gaze looks to the future, symbolizing expectations and hopes.



The Church of St Mark, with its colourful glazed tile roof

coats of arms of Croatia, Dalmatia. Slavonia and the city of Zagreb. The church has been refurbished with several statues by the sculptor Ivan Meštrović On the high altar is a large Christ on the Cross. a Pietà stands on the altar of the Holy Cross and a bronze statue of Mary with Child adorns an altar dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The modern frescoes depicting Croat kings in action were painted by

Jozo Kliaković.

### O Church of St Mark

Sv Marko

Markov trg. Tel (01) 485 16 11. Open check opening times (01) 481 40 51.

Today this is the Upper Town's parish church St Mark's was first mentioned in 1256 when King Bela IV granted the town of Gradec permission to hold a market fair in front of the church The fair lasted for two weeks and was held to celebrate the saint's day.

The church has undergone Mary with Child by various alterations Meštrović, St Mark's over the centuries. All that is left from the original construction is a Romanesque window and a splendid Gothic doorway, created by the sculptor Ivan Parler between 1364 and 1377. The 15 niches on the door contain statues of Jesus, Mary, St Mark and the 12 apostles. Some of these were replaced by wooden copies in the Baroque era.

On various occasions fires and earthquakes have been responsible for changes in the church's appearance. Its present look dates from 1882, when the coloured glazed tiles on the roof were added. The tiles bear the

## Parliament Building

Markov trg. 7 (01) 456 96 07. Open groups only by appt.

Built in Neo-Classical style in 1908 after several 17th- and 18th-century Baroque buildings were razed, this building holds an important place in the story of Croatia, Historic proclamations have been issued from the balcony: the seceding of the nation from the Austro-Hungarian

kinadom (29

October 1918)

and independence from Yugoslavia after a referendum in 1991. Today the Sabor is still the centre of 21st-century Croat politics.

### • Vicerov's Palace

Ranski dvori

Markov trg. 7 (01) 456 92 22. Open by appt.

The parliament chamber the central archives, the law courts the President of the Republic's residence and government offices are all housed in this building in front of St Mark's which was badly damaged in an airstrike in 1991. The palace is similar in design to the parliament building and is made up of two long 18th-century structures. In the 19th century two twostorey wings were added.

### © Croatian History Museum

Hrvatski povijesni muzej

Matoševa ulica 9 **Tel** (01) 485 19 00 Open 10am-6pm Mon-Fri,10am-1pm Sat & Sun. Closed public hols. 🎤 🌠 🔯 w hismus.hr

The museum, founded in 1846 has been housed here since 1959. It illustrates the history of Croatia from the Middle Ages to the present day by means of all kinds of historical mementoes and literature. These include documents and paintings of political, military and cultural events, as well as items such as firearms, flags and medals. The exhibitions are not permanent but change frequently due to limited space.

The museum is housed in the Baroque Voiković-Oršić-Kulmer-Rauch Palace, which dates from the second half of the 18th century.



The Parliament Building (Sabor), built in Neo-Classical style in 1908



On the hills - rainforest by Ivan Rabuzin (1960), Croatian Museum of Naive Art

### ® Croatian Museum of Naive Art

Hrvatski muzej naivne umjetnosti

Sv. Ćirila i Metoda, Čirilometodska ulica 3 Tel (01) 485 19 11 Open May-Oct: 10am-6pm Mon-Sat. 10am-1pm Sun: Nov-Apr: 10am-6pm Tue-Fri. 10am-2pm Sat: 10am-1pm Sun.

Closed public hols. 2 7 w hmnu.org

Since 1967, this 19th-century building with its beautiful Neo-Baroque facade has housed works from an exhibition of Naive painters which opened in Zagreb in 1952. The paintings are characterized by the use of vivid colour and a strong feeling for narrative. There are paintings by the founders of the Naive trend, Ivan Generalić and Mirko Virius, as well as by the Hlebine School (see p25), where works by Ivan Večenai and Mijo Kovačić stand out. and artists from other regions (Ivan Rabuzin, Slavko Stolnik and Matija Skurjeni). Among the sculptures are several by Petar Smaiič.

### Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius

Sv Ćiril i Metod

Sv. Ćirila i Metoda. Ćirilometodska ulica 1. Tel (01) 48517 73.

First built in around 1830 in Neo-Classical style by the architect Bartol Felbinger (1785-1871), the church was rebuilt after the earthquake of 1880 in a Neo-Byzantine style

designed by Hermann Bollé. The interior contains a large iconostasis that was painted by the Ukrainian Fnaminondas Bučevski, and four large paintings by Ivan Tišov.

The adjacent Greek-Catholic seminary was built in 1774 and enlarged at the beginning of the 20th century.

### Tower of Lotrščak

Kula Lotrščak

Strossmayerovo šetalište 9. Tel (01) 485 17 68. **Open** Apr–Oct: 9am–7pm Mon-Fri, 10am-7pm Sat & Sun,

Since the middle of the 19th century, the inhabitants of Zagreb have set their clocks at noon by the cannons fired from this tower. Dating from the 13th century, it is one of the oldest buildings in the city.

At one time this square tower had a bell, which announced the closing of the city gates each evening. Its name comes from the latin campana latruncolorum - bell of thieves anyone left outside at night ran the risk of being robbed.

The tower originally stood alongside the southern side of the walls of Gradec. Even at that time, the walls, nearly 2 m (6 ft) thick, were built with chains inside them as an antiearthquake measure.

The tower now houses a gallery. It is worth climbing to the top for spectacular views over the city.

### @ Church of St Catherine

Sv Katarina

Katarinin trg. **Tel** (01) 485 19 50 Open 8am-8pm daily.

The Jesuits huilt this church in around 1630 on the site of a Dominican building. The church is considered to be one of the most beautiful religious buildings in Zagreb The white facade has a doorway and four niches with statues and six prominent pilasters. Above is a niche with a statue of Marv.

The single-nave church is home to numerous Baroque works of art. Of particular interest are the stucco reliefs (1721–3) by Antonio Quadrio the Scenes of the Life of St Catherine by the Slovenian artist Franc Jelovšek (1700–64) in the medallion on the ceiling. a beautiful Altar of St Ignatius by the Venetian sculptor Francesco Robba (1698–1757) and, on the main altar (1762). St Catherine amona the Alexandrian Philosophers by Kristof Andrei Jelovšek (1729-76).

In the nearby square called Jezuitski trg. there is a fountain with a statue of a Fisherman with a Serpent by Simeon Roksandić (1908). Facing this is a Jesuit monastery (17th century) and a large building from the same period which was the Jesuit seminary and. later, a boarding school for boys of noble parentage.



Rich Baroque interior of the Church of St Catherine



A 19th-century

Arts and Crafts

The Neo-Baroque building housing the Croatian National Theatre

### © Croatian National Theatre

Hrvatsko narodno kazalište

Trg maršala Tita 15. Tel (01) 488 84 18. Open for performances only. Closed public hols. W hnk.hr

The Croatian National Theatre stands in the square marking the beginning of a U-shaped series of parks and squares forming a "green horseshoe". the design of the engineer Milan Lenuci (1849-1924) The theatre one of a number of imposing buildings in the square. was completed in 1895 and is a blend of Neo-Baroque and Rococo. It was designed by the Viennese architects Hermann clock. Museum of Helmer and Ferdinand Fellner The roof has two small domes at the front and a higher dome further back. The exterior is ornamented with two orders of columns running along its entire length.

The interior is richly decorated with works by Croatian and Viennese artists. Five stage backcloths include one called The Croatian Renewal, a splendid work by Vlaho Bukovac.

In the area in front of the theatre stands a masterpiece by Ivan Meštrović, The Well of Life, which consists of a group of bronze figures huddled around a well.

### Museum of Arts and Crafts

Muzei za umietnost i obrt

Trg maršala Tita 10. **Tel** (01) 488 21 11. Open 10am-7pm Tue-Sat, 10am-2pm Sun. 🔊 🌀 by appt. 🕝 🥒 🌌 w muo.hr

This museum was first established in 1880 to house collections of artworks by craftsmen and artists. The building was designed by Hermann Bollé and was

built between 1887 and

1892 More than 3,000 objects of applied arts from the Gothic period to the present provide an overview of Croatia's cultural history and its close ties to the

rest of Europe. The collections offer an insight into the

Croatian and European production of arts and crafts. spanning from late Medieval times to Art Deco and right up to the more contemporary era. The collections housed at the museum include religious art. Judaica, and items including clocks and watches, ivories, metalworks, glass, ceramics, textiles and fashion. As the museum is supported by international backing, impressive temporary exhibitions from abroad occasionally take place here. The adjacent library has a total of 65,000 books on arts and crafts.

#### Mimara Museum

Muzei Mimara

Rooseveltov tra 5. **Tel** (01) 482 81 00. Open Oct-Jun: 10am-5pm Tue. Wed. Fri & Sat. 10am-7pm Thu. 10am-2pm Sun: Jul-Sep: 10am-7pm Tue-Fri, 10am - 5pm Sat, 10am - 2pm Sun Closed Mon & FA w mimara hr

In 1973, Ante Topić Mimara. a husinessman who was also a collector painter and restorer donated his extensive collections to Croatia and the Mimara Museum was set up for their display. The museum is housed in an enormous Neo-Renaissance building built in 1895 by the German architects Ludwig and Hülsner

The works are displayed chronologically from the prehistoric era to the present day. The archaeological section. is particularly fascinating, with important finds from ancient Fgypt, Mesopotamia, Persia and Pre-Columbian America, as well as the Middle and Far Fast (Japan, Cambodia, Indonesia and India are represented).

The icon collection not only contains Russian pieces, but also has icons from Palestine. Antioch and Asia Minor dating from the 6th to the 13th centuries. There are ancient Persian. Turkish and Moroccan carpets. and about 300 exhibits cover over 3,500 years of the development of Chinese art, from the Shang to the Qing dynasties.

More than 650 glassware exhibits come from Europe, as well as Persia and Fgypt, About 1,000 objects of applied arts



The Bather by Renoir (1868), Mimara Museum

and pieces of furniture give a good overall picture of European craftsmanship from the Middle Ages to the 19th century

There is also a wide-ranging collection of 200 sculptures which date from ancient Greece to the time of the Impressionists. They include works by the Italian sculptors Giambologna, the Della Robbias and Verrocchio, and the Frenchmen Jean-Antoine Houdon and Auguste Rodin Italian painting is represented by, among others, Veronese, Paolo Veneziano, Pietro Lorenzetti, Raphael, Canaletto, Giorgione and Caravaggio.

Dutch Baroque painting is represented by Rembrandt, Jacob Van Ruisdael and Jan Van Goven Flemish masters here include Rogier van der Wevden, Hieronymus Bosch, Van Dyck and Rubens, Diego Velázguez, Bartolomé Esteban Murillo and Francisco Gova represent the Spanish painters.

The museum also has paintings by the English artists John Constable and IMW Turner and the French painters

Edouard Manet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Camille Pissarro.

Putto by Verrocchio.

Mimara Museum

### Ethnographic Museum

Etnoarafski muzei

Mažuranićev trg 14. Tel (01) 482 62 20. Open 10am-6pm Tue-Fri, 10am-1pm Sat & Sun. Closed Mon, public hols. 

This is the most important museum of its kind in Croatia. It was founded in 1919 and set up in this harmonious domed building, constructed in 1902 in the Art Nouveau style by the architect Viekoslav Bastl. for exhibitions held by the Chamber of Commerce. The statues decorating the central part of the facade are by the sculptor Rudolf Valdec and the frescoes on the dome inside were painted by Oton Iveković. Only a small proportion (2,800



Traditional Croatian costumes on display. Ethnographic Museum

nieces) of the 80 000 exhibits which the museum possesses are on display. Croatian culture

is illustrated through exhibits of gold and silver iewellery, musical instruments, splendid embroidery, furnishinas, kitchen utensils tools beautiful traditional women's costumes embroidered in gold and men's ceremonial dress. A reconstruction of

a farmhouse room illustrates the customs and way of life of Croat farmers and fishermen.

There is also a fascinating collection of dolls dressed in traditional costumes, called the Lieposav Perinić collection.

The valuable collection of pieces from non-European civilizations, including Latin America, Africa, the Far East,

Melanesia and Australia was assembled from donations made by scholars and explorers among them Dragutin Lerman and brothers Mirko and Stevo Selian

### Rotanical Garden of the Faculty of Science

Rotanički vrt Prirodoslovno matematičkoa fakulteta

Marulićev trg 9a. 7 (01) 489 80 60. Open Apr-Oct: 9am-2:30pm Mon & Tue: 9am=7pm Wed=Sun W hirc botanic hr/vrt

Part of the "green horseshoe" designed by Milan Lenuci is an English-style garden created in 1890 by Antun Heinz a professor of botany and entrusted to the faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Zagreb University.

The garden, covering an area of 50,000 sq m (540,000 sq ft), is an oasis of tranquillity and for this reason it is a popular place in which to stroll. There are about 6,000 plant species here, including around 1,800 tropical plants from all over the world. with Asia particularly well represented.

Paths link the conifer woods. artificial ponds, the exhibition pavilions, rock gardens and glasshouses. A wonderful display is provided by the different varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers that are grown here. Aquatic plants are cultivated in special ponds.



Flowers in bloom at the Botanical Gardens



Art Pavilion, a historic venue for major exhibitions

### Art Pavilion

Umietnički pavilion

Trg kralja Tomislava 22. Tel (01) 484 10 70. Open 11am-8pm Tue-Sun. 11am-9pm Fri. Mumjetnickipavilion.hr

In 1896 the Art Pavilion represented Croatia at the international exhibition in Budanest. Its iron skeleton was then transported to Zagreb and rebuilt on this site in 1898 to fit the designs of Ferdinand Fellner and Hermann Helmer. It is now used for large-scale, diverse art exhibitions A work by Ivan Meštrović a monument to the Renaissance painter Andrija Medulić, stands in front of the Pavilion.

The Pavilion faces onto a square, Trg Kralja Tomislava, dedicated to the first Croatian king, Tomislay. An equestrian statue by the sculptor Robert Frangeš-Mihanović stands here in commemoration.

### Gallery of Old Masters

Galerija starih maistora

See nn170-71.

### Modern Gallery

Moderna galerija

Andrije Hebranga 1. **Tel** (01) 604 10 55. Open 11am-7pm Tue-Fri: 11am-2pm Sat & Sun. Closed Mon. public hols. galerija.hr

The richest national museum of Croatian arts, housed in the Vranyczany Palace (1883), holds works by the most eminent Croatian painters and sculptors of the 19th\_21st centuries. The collection dates from 1905 when the first works of Ivan Meštrović Mirko Rački and others were acquired. Later purchases and donations brought the current total to some 9.800 paintings. sculptures, watercolours, drawings and prints.

The permanent display of 750 works includes modern classics from painters Vlaho Bukovac Mato C Medović Miroslav Kraljević and Josip Račić, the sculptors Ivan Meštrović, Frano Kršinić and Branislav Dešković, along with contemporary artists working in photography, video and other new media. The innovative, multisensory MG Tactile Gallery is aimed particularly at the visually impaired.

### Archaeological Museum

Arheološki muzei

Tra Nikole Šubića Zrinskog 19 **Tel** (01) 487 30 00. Open 10am-6pm Tue-Sat (to 8pm Thu), 10am-1pm Sun, 🔊 by appt. A w amz.hr

A large 19th-century building, the Vranyczany-Hafner Palace. has housed the Archaeological Museum since 1945 The institution itself however was founded in 1846.

Around 400 000 pieces from all over Croatia, and particularly the area around Zagreb, are on display here. The museum has five main sections; prehistoric. Egyptian, ancient and medieval, and a part devoted to coins and medals

The first section covers the period from the Neolithic to the late Iron Age and includes the famous Vučedol Dove, a pouring vessel shaped like a bird. Despite the rustic materials used, it nonetheless reveals the technical skills that the pre-Illyrian civilizations had acquired.

Another important exhibit is the bandage used to bind the Mummy of Zagreb. This bandage has mysterious origins and bears text in the Etruscan language, which has not yet been completely deciphered.

The museum's ancient collection is the most important of all and includes the



Gundulić Imagining Osman by Vlaho Bukovac, founder of modern Croat painting, Modern Gallery



Lapidarium, which can be found in the courtvard. It is a collection of stone monuments dating from the Roman period (it is open every day except for Monday). The valuable exhibit of the Head of Plautilla, from the Roman town of Salona (see pp.118-19), is the emblem of the museum

An archaeological conservation laboratory dedicated to preserving the exhibits is also part of the museum. In addition the museum has developed several educational projects aimed at school children The archaeological library next door houses over 45,000 volumes, some of which are very rare.

## Museum of Contemporary Art

Muzei suvremene umietnosti

Avenija Dubrovnik 17. Tel (01) 605 27 00. Open 11am-6pm Tue-Sun, 11am-8pm Sat. w msu.hr 🔊 🎉 🤼 🖰

This superb exhibition space displays more than 600 works by 200 artists. Highlights include the experimental films of Ivan Ladislay Galeta and Tomislay Gotovac, and conceptual pieces from Goran Trbuljak, Sanja Iveković and Atelier Kožarić. Works such as Miroslav Balka's Eves of Purification and Carsten Höller's slides, also shown in Tate Modern's Turbine Hall in London, add to the museum's heavyweight credentials.

### Maksimir Park

Maksimirski perivoi

Maksimirski perivoi bb. Open daily. w park-maksimir.hr

The largest park in the city (covering over 3 sa km/ 1 sa mile) is considered one of Croatia's living monuments. It is named after Bishon Maksimilijan Vrhovac, who initiated the project in 1794.

The park was finally completed in 1843.

> The park is landscaped in the English style with wide lawns and flower heds small woods and lakes The **700** (Zoološki vrt) has hundreds of different



## Mirogoj Cemeterv

small café

Groblje Mirogoj

Mirogoj. Open Oct-Mar: 7:30am-6pm daily, Apr-Sep: 6am-8pm daily.

At the foot of Mount Medvednica 4 km (2 miles) from the centre of the city, is the Mirogoj Cemetery, built in 1876 by Hermann Bollé, This great architect had already demonstrated his ability and talent with the building of the new city district. The cemetery covers an area of 28,000 sq m (6.91 acres) and the tombs of the most illustrious figures in the political, cultural and artistic

life of Croatia lie here An imposing facade covered in ivy forms the entrance to the Catholic and Orthodox chapels. From here branch two long Neo-Renaissance arcades which house the burial rooms of the most important families

A long tree-lined avenue divides the area into two sections which in turn are divided into squares of trees and bushes. Among the areas of greenery stand funeral monuments by leading Croatian sculptors and engravers. There are works by Ivan Meštrović. Jozo Kliaković, Ivan Rendić. Antun Filipović, Antun Augustinčić Edo Murtić Ivan Kerdić and Robert Frances-Mihanović

As well as the tombs of notable personalities there is also a monument dedicated to the memory of the soldiers who died during World War I, bv Juri Turkali and V Radauš. and a monument dedicated to the Jews who died in World War II. by Antun Augustinčić. On one of the cemetery lawns there is a monument dedicated to the German soldiers killed in the war

The well-preserved cemetery is a real open-air museum and is often visited by the local inhabitants, who regularly put fresh flowers and candles on the tombs of great Croats of the past.



Arcade in the Mirogoj Cemetery, one of the most beautiful in Europe

## Gallery of Old Masters

Galeriia starih maistora

In 1880 Josip Juraj Strossmayer, the rich and powerful Bishop of Đakovo and one of the leading proponents of a pan-Slav movement, had this gallery built to house the Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Gallery of Old Masters, to which he donated his own impressive collection of about 250 works of art.

The Neo-Renaissance building has a large internal porticoed courtyard. Nine rooms on the upper floor house around 200 works from the major European schools from the 14th to the 19th century. Behind the building is a large statue of Bishop Strossmayer sculpted by Ivan Meštrović in 1926.



Virgin with Child and St Francis and St Bernardine of Siena

This painting is one of the few works by Bartolomeo Caporali (c.1420-1505) to be found outside Perugia in Italy.



#### Susanna and the Elders

The three figures depicted in the painting stand out against the landscape in the background. The faces of the two old men are very expressive; it is as though they are revived by gazing at the beautiful Susanna. The artist, Master of the Prodigal Son, demonstrates great technical skill and vivid use of colour.



The gallery is on the second floor of the building. Exhibits include works by important Italian, German, Flemish and French masters, representing schools and artistic trends from the 14th to the 19th century. Before visiting the gallery, note, in the entrance hall, the Baška Tablet, one of the oldest documents of Croat culture (11th century). written in Glagolitic script.



Second floor

### Madame Recamier

This portrait by Antoine Jean Gros (1771–1835) was probably painted around 1825. Madame Recamier was a leading figure of some notoriety in Parisian high society of that time.



### Virgin Mary with Jesus, John and an Angel

This tondo by Jacopo del Sellaio uses exuberant colour. The Tuscan artist belonged to the circle of Filippo Lippi and Sandro Botticelli.

### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

### Practical Information

Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinskog 11. **Tel** (01) 489 51 17. **Open** 10am–7pm Tue, 10am–4pm Wed–Fri, 10am–1pm Sat & Sun.

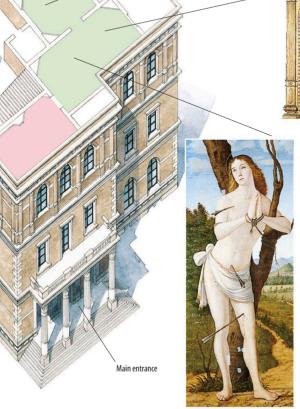
#### Adam and Eve

This lively oil on panel painting is by Mariotto Albertinelli (1474– 1515), a Florentine painter. It shows Adam and Eve being expelled from Earthly Paradise.



### Key

- Italian School 14th–16th century
- Italian School 16th–18th century
- Flemish and Dutch Masters and European School 15th–17th century
- French Masters 18th-19th century
- Non-exhibition space



#### ★ St Augustine and St Benedict

The work reveals the expressive skill of the great Venetian master, Giovanni Bellini (1430–1516). The figures of the saints occupy simple niches.

#### ★ St Sebastian

This delicate image of the saint by Vittore Carpaccio (1465–1525) was part of a polyptych. In this painting with its vivid colouring, the Venetian master expresses the drama of the martyrdom through the smile of the young man at the moment of his death.



## CENTRAL CROATIA

Central Croatia is bordered to the west by the vine-covered hills of Samobor. which continue on towards Karlovac and Ogulin, and to the south by the Bosnia-Herzegovina border as far as Jasenovac. To the northeast is a stretch of fertile valley formed by the Sava river, which runs from Zagreb to the Lonisko Polie Nature Park. These wetlands, south of Sisak, are home to all kinds of birds.

This region of Croatia has long been a meeting point for different civilizations. Until the 12th century BC, this area was inhabited by the Illyrians, who were joined by Celts in the 4th century BC. The first Illyrian cities became Roman towns after the 1st century AD. The most important was Siscia (now called Sisak). which was sacked by the Huns in 441 and raided by the Avars in the 6th century.

The southern border with Bosnia, which dates back to 271 AD, was confirmed at the time of the division between the Western and Fastern Churches in 1054. and later re-confirmed when the Turks occupied the Balkans. To stop the continuous Turkish raids, in 1578 the Austrian Emperor established a Voina krajina (Military Frontier) in areas which had mostly been abandoned by the Croats, who had fled to the coastal cities for refuge. To help quard the borders.

Serbian refugees were brought in. along with minorities of Vlachs. Albanians Montenegrin and Germanspeaking groups. Villages sprang up which were inhabited by Catholics. Muslims and people of the Orthodox faith. These diverse communities lived. together without any serious tension until the mid-19th century, when feelings of nationalism swept across Furope. The most recent war, fought in the name of nationalism, created widespread destruction and resulted in thousands of Serbs choosing to leave the region

This part of Croatia is the area least visited by tourists, although it offers magnificent scenery with rivers and wood-covered hills and good Croatian cuisine. There is plenty to see, with ancient castles churches museums and nature reserves



Horses grazing in the Lonisko Polie Nature Park

## **Exploring Central Croatia**

Three distinct areas make up this part of the country: the lowlands around the capital, Zagreb, with numerous 18th-century buildings constructed on the sites of ancient castles; the hilly area between Samobor and Karlovac, renowned for its wine production; and the strip of border with Bosnia-Herzegovina, south of Sisak. The landscape of Central Croatia is varied, with areas of rolling plains alternating with vine-covered hills. Higher areas are covered in thick woods and there is also an area of wetlands that comprise Lonisko Polie Nature Park. In the cities and larger towns there are Baroque churches, monasteries, castles, fortresses and museums. Most suffered damage in the 1991–95 war, but some have been repaired since.



Sesvete

Zagreb

Velika

Ruš

Pokupsko

Glina

Museum, Sisak

Brezovica

Zaprešić

SAMOBOR 1



# in Jastrebarsko Rijeka

Drežnica

OGULIN 6

Josipdol

Plaški

## **Getting Around**

The road network which crosses central Croatia is good. Recently roads have been improved and the motorways extended. From Zagreb the A3 motorway goes to Samobor and the Lonjsko Polje Nature Park. State road number 30 serves Sisak, while a secondary road network connects the other towns. All the main towns and cities are served by the Croatian railway system, except for the city of Samobor, Buses go to all villages, however small.

# 5 KARLOVAC Duga Resa

JASTREBARSKO 3

Liubliana

Zumberake Got

OZALJ 4



Sluni

Broćanac







0 kilometres 0 miles

### Sights at a Glance

- Samobor
- **2** Okić
- lastreharsko
- 4 Ozali
- S Karlovac
- 6 Ogulin
- ♠ Topusko Toplice
- Sisak
- Hrvatska Kostajnica

- lasenovac
- Novska
- 12 Lonjsko Polje Nature Park
- Kutina
- **⚠** Garić



Locator Map





The main altar in the Church of St Mary, Samohor

### Samobor

Map C2. ⚠ 15,000. (01) 336 72 76. Trg kralja Tomislava 5, (01) 336 00 44. Carnival (Feb); Day of the city (3rd Sat in Oct). trz-samobor.hr

Samobor is built below the ruins of what was once a large fort (Stari Grad). In 1242 it was granted the status of a royal free town, and became an important trading centre. Today it is one of the capitals of Croatian gastronomy, priding itself on its traditional local dishes

In the oldest area (Taborec) is the Gothic Church of **St Michael** (Sv. Mihalj), which was remodelled in the Baroque period. Dating from the same time is the Church of **St Anastasia** (Sv. Anastazija) and a Franciscan monastery with the Church of St Mary (Sv. Marija): the *Assumption* behind the main altar was frescoed by Franc Jelovšek in 1752, while the altar on the left was decorated by Valentin

Metzinger (1734). The adjacent monastery is laid out around a beautiful quadrangular cloister and has Baroque frescoes in the refectory and library.

The history of the city and local area is well documented in the **Civic Museum** (Muzej grada Samobora), housed in the 18th-century Livadić Palace. The section dedicated to the history of Croatian mountaineering is especially interesting.

#### f St Anastasia

Ulica sv. Ane 2. **Tel** (01) 336 00 82. **Open** by appt.

#### **M** Civic Museum

Livadićeva 7. **Tel** (01) 336 10 14. **Open** 9am–3pm Tue–Thu, 9am–7pm Fri, 10am–2pm Sat, 10am–5pm Sun.

### **9** Okić

Map C2. County: Preradovićeva 42, Zagreb, (01) 487 36 65.

High on an isolated hilltop. towering above the fields and woodland surrounding the village of Okić stand the ruins of a fortified town. These consist of the remains of a wall with round towers, an entrance gate and a Gothic chapel. The town, mentioned in documents from 1183, belonged to the counts of Okić, Zrinski, Frankopan and Erdödy. It was destroyed by the Turks and eventually abandoned in 1616. The steep, rocky approaches leading up to the ruins are popular with climbers, who are rewarded with fantastic views from the summit

In the village around the foot of the hill is the Church of **St Mary** (Sv. Marija). It was rebuilt in 1893 incorporating a decorated doorway from 1691 and survived survived landslips in 1911 that engulfed much of the village. Inside are some Baroque altars, a splendid pulpit and a font. In front of the church is an octagonal bell tower with a vestibule.



A painting by Metzinger in the Church of St Mary in Jastrebarsko

### 4 Jastrebarsko

At the foot of the Plešivica mountain chain, between Samobor and Karlovac, stands Jastrebarsko. The town appears in documents of 1249. It assumed greater importance in 1257 when it was declared a royal free town by Bela IV and became a trading centre for timber, livestock and the wine which is still produced locally.

In the 15th century the town was a feudal holding of the Erdödy family, who built an imposing **castle** on a square ground-plan with round towers at the corners and an internal porticoed courtyard. Two centuries later it was altered and turned into a residential building which is now closed to the public.

The Baroque Church of **St Nicholas** (Sv. Nikola; 1772–75) contains a fresco by Rašica and the tomb of Petar Erdödy (1567). In the Church of **St Mary** 



Ruins of the fortified town of Okić, perched on a hilltop

(Sv. Marija: 1740), originally Dominican and later Franciscan. the altars are all Baroque The painting on the altar dedicated to Mary is by Valentin Metzinger and dates from 1735

## Ozali

Map C2. 🔼 1,200. 🗐 (047) 731 158. E Karlovac. (060) 338 833. Ozali. (047) 731107. M Kurilovac 1. (047) 731 196. A Day of the city (30 Apr): Summer evenings in Ozalj (15–20 Aug). w ozali-tz.hr

A castle (Stari grad) which belonged to royalty once stood on this rocky spur. It was huilt in the 13th century to monitor the roads and the traffic on the river Kupa which flows below it. The castle was strengthened by the Babonić counts and was also the property of the Frankopan family and, in the late 16th century, of Juraj Zrinski. After the Ottoman threat had passed, a village grew up around the castle which had become a residential manor

Parts of the fortress remain visible: two encircling walls with five semicircular towers. Next to these are some more recent buildings: the granary (palas) (16th century) and a Gothic family chapel. The Coat of arms, Civic main building, on Museum, Karlovac several levels, was renovated in 1928 by the Thurn und Taxis family who had inherited it. For a time



Ozalj Castle, once owned by the Frankopans and Juraj Zrinski

the building was abandoned but in 1971 it became a museum Exhibits explain the history of the fort and local area and there are some Glagolitic inscriptions

Castle and Museum Cesta Zrinskih i Frankopana 2. 7 (047) 732 271. Open 8am–8pm Mon–Fri. 10am=8pm Sat & Sun

### 6 Karlovac

Map C2. 55,000. 🗐 (060) 333 444. (060) 338 833. 11 Local: Ulica Petra Zrinskog 3, (047) 615 115: Regional: A Vraniczanya 6, (047) 615 320. w karlovac-touristinfo.hr Spring Promenades (May). St. John's Bonfires (Jun): International folk festival (Jul): Beer festival (Aug).

Todav Karlovac is an industrial city and an important junction for roads to Slovenia. It originated as a bulwark against Turkish raids, but was actually founded in 1579 by the Archduke of Austria. Charles of Habsburg, from

whom the town aets its name

> The town was planned by the İtalian N Angelini as a city-fort at the confluence of the rivers Korana and Kupa. The layout was based on a sixpointed star with bastions and moats which have now

been transformed into public gardens. The interior contained 24 buildings, all similar, all of which are still preserved today although they are used for different purposes.

The heart of the city is Strossmayer Square with the Baroque Frankopan Palace which houses the Civic Museum (Gradski m uzej). The archaeological and ethnographic collections document the city's history. In the square Trg Bana Jelačića is a Franciscan monastery. The Viekoslav Karas Gallery was built in 1975 in the New Centre. It uses its attractive display space for both visual art and museum exhibitions.



Clock tower of the Church of the Holy Trinity in Karlovac

The Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity (Presvetoga Trojstvo) dates mainly from 1683-92 with an 18th-century clock tower (1795). The church has an elaborate black marble altar made by Michele Cussa in 1698. The Orthodox Church of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikola) dates from 1786

To the east the city now extends as far as Dubovac Castle a medieval construction Once used as a hotel, it is being restored to its original design.

#### **IIII** Civic Museum

Strossmaverov trg 7, Tel (047) 615 980. Open 8am-4pm Tue, Thu & Fri, 8am-7pm Wed, 10am-4pm Sat, 10amnoon Sun. W gmk.hr

IIII The Vjekoslav Karas Gallery Liudevita Šestića 3. Tel (047) 615 980. Open during exhibitions: 8am-4pm Tue & Thu, 8am-7pm Wed & Fri, 10am-4pm Sat, 10am-noon Sun,

#### 1 Holy Trinity

Trg bana Jelačića 7. **Tel** (047) 615 950/1. Open before Mass. Other times by appt.



15th-century castle of the Frankopan counts in Oqulin

### Ogulin

When Marshal Tito was imprisoned here in 1927 and 1933 (see p44), this town became well known throughout Croatia. The prison was part of a castle built by the Frankopan counts in the 15th century. The castle walls enclosed a large building with two tall towers at the ends. a Gothic chapel and several houses which were built when Ogulin became a staging post on the Voina kraiina (Military Frontier, see p41) in 1627, Part of the structure is given over to the **Regional Museum** which has sections on archaeology. folklore and mountaineering. It also comprises Ivana's House of Fairy Tales, an interactive visitor's centre that celebrates fairy tales and their creators

A short distance from the fortified town is the Old Castle (Zulumgrad) situated near the Đula abyss, a chasm formed by the Dobra river.

## Topusko Toplice

Map D2. ⚠ 800. ☐ from Zagreb, Sisak, Karlovac. [7] Trg bana Jelačića 4, (044) 885 203. ☑ Days of Honey (Feb); Folklore Day (Jun); Half Marathon (Aug). ☑ turizam-topusko.com

The presence of a Cistercian abbey made this a centre for spreading Christianity in the Banovina area (a region of green valleys south of Sisak, between the Sava and Glina

rivers). The abbey was founded in 1204 by King Andrew II and a village grew up around it in the Middle Ages. The remains can be found in Opatovina Park.

The nearby hot water springs (up to 78°C/172°E) were used in Roman times and in the 19th century a thermal spa was established, which was frequented by the Emperor Franz Joseph and other court dignitaries. Today the spa treats rheumatic and neurological problems, and the aftereffects of incapacitating injuries. The spa has three main thermal sources and the water comes from a depth of 1 500 m (4.920 ft). The quality of the water has not changed since the 19th century. There are two

hotels in Topusko and a number of private accommodations.

### Sisak

Map D2. 

37,000. 

(044) 524 724. 

(060) 330 060. 

Rimska ulica 13a, (044) 522 655. 

sisakturist.com

The city of Sisak, at the point where the rivers Kupa and Odra flow into the Sava, has always played an important role in Croatian history. Its name has changed a number of times over the course of its 2,000 years of existence. It originated as the Illyrian-Celtic Segestica, becoming Siscia with the Romans, and later Colonia Flavia Siscia. Rome conquered the



Fortress of Sisak next to the Kupa river, built in the 16th century

town after a bloody battle in which Emperor Augustus was wounded. After the conquest of the Balkans, the emperor made it the capital of the Pannonia Savia province and it became a trading centre.

It was destroyed by Attila in 441, and in the 6th century it was raided by the Avars and Slavs. The fown was finally rebuilt by the Croats and hecame Sisak It was from here that Prince Liudevit began the conquest of Croatia in the 8th century. Sisak was destroyed again by the Hungarians in the 10th century and was also abandoned by the bishop, who transferred Hercules (1st the see to Zagreb, but century AD). built a fort here In 1593 Sical museum

this fort was the site of a battle which resulted in the first Turkish defeat in the Balkans.

The town rose again nearby and began to enjoy a long period of prosperity, thanks to tolls on river traffic. It still has some Baroque buildings, including the old and new town halls.

A park surrounds the **fortress** (Stari grad) on the River Kupa, south of the city. The fortress was built in the middle of the 16th century at the time of the Turkish invasions. It has a triangular ground plan, with three large round brick towers (1544–55), connected by a high wall with openings for firearms. In the park is a beautiful traditional farmhouse. The **Civic Museum** (Gradski muze)) has material from the Roman settlement.

#### Fortress

Tome Bakača Erdödyja. (044) 811 811. **Open** contact for info.

#### IIII Civic Museum

w muzej-sisak.hr

#### **Environs**

About 20 km (12 miles) southwest is **Gora** which, in the Middle Ages, was the centre of a Županija (county) of the same name. The county seat was a

castle which appears in documents in 1242, but which was destroyed by the Turks in 1578. The Gothic Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Uznesenia Blažene Dievice Marije) was also badly damaged and was restored in the 18th century in the Baroque style. The church has chapels on all corners and resembles a

castle with a marble altar and

# Arvatska Kostainica

pulpit inside.

Map D2. 1 2.000. from Zagreb. Sisak, From Zagreb, Sisak, Vladimira Nazora 17, (044) 851 800.

Standing on the left bank of the River Una which for much of its length marks the border between Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina this town still bears the signs of damage from the war in the 1990s. By the river, near a bridge, is a renovated castle built in the Middle Ages but frequently razed. Only three towers connected by a high wall remain in the wake of the last war The Church and Monastery of St Anthony of Padua, built after the Turks left at the end of the 17th century. have been restored and are discreetly furnished (some of the Baroque altars were famous for their beauty).

#### **Environs**

Around 14 km (9 miles) to the southwest is Zrin, where the ruins of a castle built in the 14th century by the Babonić family stand on a hill. In 1347 it passed



The tulip-shaped monument by Bogdanović in Jasenovac Memorial Site

to the Bribir princes of Šubić. A branch of the family took the name of Zrinski after the village around the castle. It was occupied by the Turks from 1577 until the end of the 17th century when they destroyed it.

The Zrinskis played a key role in Croatia's history: as fierce defenders against the Turks: then as the authors of the failed attempt to free the territory from Habsburg rule (see p181).

# Dasenovac Alasenovac Dasenovac Alasenovac Dasenovac Daseno

Map E2, A 800, A from Sisak. 👼 from Sisak. 🚺 Trg kralja Petra Svačića 3. (044) 672 490.

This town is notorious as the place where, during World War II, tens of thousands of prisoners of war, Jews, Gypsies, Serbs and Croats, perished in the concentration camp which was located here. In memory of this terrible genocide, a large tulipshaped monument by the artist

Bogdan Bogdanović now stands in what was formerly the camp's centre. The monument and the Memorial Museum are part of Jasenovac Memorial Site



Church of St Luke in Novska

# • Novska

Map E2. 🔼 7,500. 💂 from Zagreb, Sisak, (044) 892 421. 🚾 from Zagreb, Sisak, 7 Ulica kralia Tomislava 2. (044) 600 062.

The town of Novska is the starting point for visiting the Lonjsko Polje Nature Park (see p180) and for excursions to the Psunj mountains. A number of recreational sports can be enioved here too.

The Church of St Luke (Sv. Luka) is a Baroque church dating from 1775. It has a fine altar and a painting by the modern painter Z Šulentić. In the Bauer Gallery there are many works by Naive and contemporary artists.

Novska's economy is based on industry and trade, and rail and road links are good.



The castle of medieval origins in Kostajnica, on the banks of the Una



Nesting storks in the Lonisko Polie Nature Park

# Lonisko Polie **Nature Park**

Map D2. Park office (Krapje): 7 (044) 672 080. Entrance at Čigoć: 🚺 (044) 715 115. Open Apr-Oct: 9am-5pm daily; Nov-Mar: by appt. pp-lonisko-polie.hr

The wide hend in the River Sava between Sisak and Stara Gradiška has been a special ornithological reserve since 1963. It became a nature reserve in 1990 to protect an area of 506 sq km (195 sq miles). This vast area was regularly flooded by the river and its tributaries (Lonja, Ilova, Pakra and Čazma) during the thaw. and in the summer and early autumn the waters would recede. Since the 1960s parts of the wetlands have been drained, but they still remain some of Europe's most important marshland.

Woods of oak, poplar, ash and willow trees grow along the banks of the river and on the higher ground, while the dry fields are used as grazing for sheep in the summer months. Wild boar live here, as well as deer and there are also Turopolje pigs and Posavina horses, both of which are protected species.

The park is an important stopping place for black storks, which arrive in spring and leave in autumn after nesting, for numerous species of heron, for egrets and a variety of birds of prey, including the rare harrier and white-tailed eagles.

# ® Kutina

Man D2. 🚮 15.000. 🗐 (060) 333 444. (060) 355 060. 7 Tržna 8. (044) 681 004 W turizam-kutina.hr

Kutina in the Moslavina region was built over the ruins of a Roman castrum (a Roman military camp or fort) and numerous archaeological finds have been discovered. The town is linked to two castles. Kutiniac Grad, documented in 1256, and the fortress of Ploydin: however, only ruins and parts of the walls remain.

Kutina flourished again in the 17th century, developing on the plain south of the fortress. It is here that the Church of Our Lady of the Snow (Marija Snježna) was built by Count Karl Frdödy in around 1770 The church is surrounded by a covered portico and is decorated inside with stucco and trompe-l'oeil paintings by Josip Görner. The sculpture and the inlaid wooden furnishings which enclose the altar of the Holy Sepulchre are a unique example of Baroque composition.

Frdödy Castle, which was rebuilt in 1895, houses the Museum of Moslavina (Muzei Moslavine), which tells the history and folklore of Moslavina through an extensive collection of documents, objects and traditional costumes.

### **IIII** Museum of Moslavina

Trg kralia Tomislava 13. Tel (044) 683 548. Open 8am-1pm Tue-Fri.



Interior of the Church of Our Lady of the Snow in Kutina

#### Environs

Around 50 km (31 miles) northwest of Kutina is Ivanić-Grad and the nearby towns of Kloštar Ivanić and Križ In Ivanić-Grad there are workshops making pretty flax and linen products. keening local traditions alive

In Kloštar Ivanić there is a Franciscan monastery founded in 1508 and the church of St Mary (Sv Marija) with collections of silver. paintings and richly illustrated music codices.

In Križ, the parish church of the Cross was founded by the Knights Templar in the 11th century. The church has a decorative Baroque interior and a magnificent 1787 organ.



Some remains of the old fortifications around Garić

# **@** Garić

Map D2. 76 (Podgarić). Regional: Dr. Ante Starčevića 8. Bielovar, (043) 221 928.

On a hill in the Moslavačka chain (Moslavačka Gora) near Podgarić stand the ruins of the fortified town of Garić, noted as a castrum in 1256. In 1277, it was granted by the king to Timotej, Bishop of Zagreb, who entrusted its defence to the counts of Gardun, and later to the counts of Celie. Nearby. below Garić, the Pauline order founded the monastery of St Mary in 1295. In 1544 the town and the monastery were destroyed by the Turks.

The fortified town was protected by high walls and was an irregular shape. There was a moat with towers, and further towers inside the walls.

# The Zrinski and Frankopan Dynasties

Dujam, count of Krk, died in 1163 and his descendants took the name of Frankopan (Frangere Panem) after Venice confirmed the family's rule over Krk. They were allied with Venice until 1480 when they were forced to surrender the island. However, they still had vast estates given to them by the Hungarian kings. The Subić family became counts of Bribir when they were granted the town by King Andrew II in 1290, and counts of Zrinski in 1347 when they were obliged to move to Zrin (see p179). The execution of the Ban of Croatia, Petar Zrinski, and his brother-in-law Fran Krsto Frankopan in 1671 ended the two most powerful Croatian dynasties. The Habsburgs confiscated their property and the Zrinski line died out. A branch of the Frankopan family still survives in Friuli, Italy.



Fran Krsto Frankopan (1643-1671), greatgrandson of Krsto Frankopan and Mario Francipane's heir (the Roman branch of the family), was publicly executed in Wiener Neustadt in 1671, for his part in a plot against the Empire.



Krsto Frankopan. (1480?-1527) son of Bernard Ban of Croatia and Louise of Aragon. was Emperor Maximilian's general in the war against Venice in the early 16th century. He was imprisoned in Milan and died fighting for the independence of Hungary, of which Croatia was part.



Petar 7rinski



# Execution of the Rebels

On 30 April 1671, in the town square in Wiener Neustadt, the Ban of Croatia, Petar Zrinski, and his brother-in-law, Krsto Frankopan, were beheaded on charges of high treason on the orders of Emperor Leopold I. The two brothers-in-law had attempted to form a coalition of the Croatian feudal lords in order to limit Austro-Hungarian influence.



Nikola Zrinski fought against the Turks and was a defender of Christianity. He died in the Battle of Siget in 1566, after he refused the sultan's offer to make him Governor of Croatia if he abandoned the Emperor.



Petar Zrinski was the Ban (governor) from 1664, and the leader of the movement which sought to limit Habsburg activity in Croatia. The attempted revolt was foiled by betrayals and the promise of a possible agreement. The two leaders went to Vienna to negotiate with the Emperor. When they reached the capital they were imprisoned, and a few months later were beheaded.







# SLAVONIA AND BARANJA

The easternmost part of northern Croatia, between Hungary, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, is one of the most fertile areas of Europe, known as the "granary of Croatia". The landscape of Slavonia and Barania is characterized by expanses of wheat and maize fields and hills covered with vineyards or ancient woods. The main city, Osiiek, is famous for its fortified centre.

First inhabited by the Illyrians, presentday Slavonia and Barania came into contact with the Roman world in the 2nd century BC. It took the Romans more than 200 years to subdue the inhabitants of this region, which they referred to as Pannonia From 402 Pannonia was invaded, first by the Goths, then the Huns, Visigoths, Burgundians, Gepids, Longobards, Sarmatians and finally the Avars. When the Slavs arrived, very little remained of Roman rule, and the land. ever since then called Slavonia, was practically uninhabited.

In 925 the Kingdom of the Croat Sovereigns was set up and this lasted until 1097, when King Koloman came to rule Slavonia and created the Hungarian-Croat kingdom, Following the Battle of Mohács in 1526. Slavonia became part of the Ottoman Empire, and remained so

until 1689. To confront the constant disputes between the Turks and the Holv Roman Empire, the Habsburgs set up a Military Frontier (Voina krajina), which lasted until 1881, when Austria-Hungary took Bosnia-Herzegovina from the Turks. The frontier was abolished and absorbed into Croatia

When war broke out in 1991, the presence of Serb villages was a pretext for the Serbian occupation of Slavonia. In 1995, under the auspices of the United Nations, control of Slavonia reverted back to the Croatians. Although war damage is still visible along the border, particularly in Vukovar, great efforts are being made with rebuilding and Slavonia is once again well worth visiting for its historical treasures. It is also an area of great natural beauty and includes the nature reserve of Kopački rit. a wetlands sanctuary for wildfowl



Local people in the typical traditional costumes of the region

■ Fresco in the 18th-century church of St Francis in Požega

# Exploring Slavonia and Barania

Slavonia, the region between the rivers Sava, Drava and Danube, is made up of a vast rolling alluvial plain with chains of hills at its edges which are covered in woods and vinevards. At one time the rivers turned the area into an enormous swamp for many months of the year. Barania is a triangular area of land in the far northeast, bordered at the extreme tip by the rivers Drava and Danube and the Hungarian border.

The plains are covered in fields of maize and the hills are given over to viticulture. In the southern corner, the Drava river regularly overflows from spring

to autumn to create a broad area of marshland, now the Kopački Rit Nature Park. The park is an important wildlife sanctuary, a refuge for hundreds of different species of bird, including the rare black stork.

On the right bank of the Drava river is Slavonia's main city, Osijek. It has wide avenues, parks, and 19th-century, Viennese-style buildings, as well as a Neo-Gothic cathedral.

# Sights at a Glance

- Daruvar
- 1 Lipik
- 3 Nova Gradiška
- Požega
- 6 Kutievo
- Slavonski Brod
- Vrpolie
- B Đakovo
- Novi Mikanovci
- Župania
- Winkovci
- Ilok
- Šarengrad Wukovar
- Erdut
- Osijek pp 194–7
- Ernestinovo
- 18 Kopački Rit Nature Park pp198-9
- Topolje
- 20 Darda
- a Bizovac
- 22 Valpovo
- 23 Donji Miholjac
- 2 Našice
- Orahovica
- Wirovitica

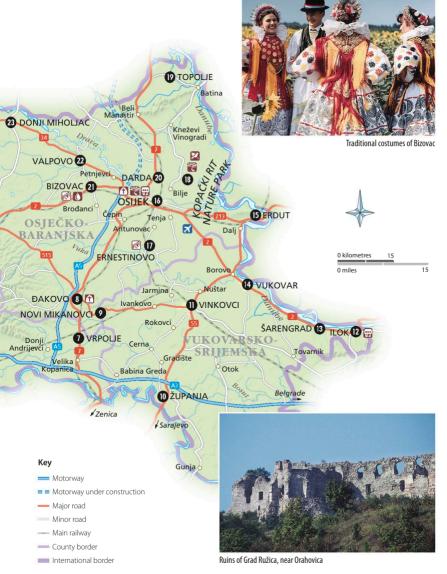


# **Getting Around**

For many years Osijek was a rail, road and river junction of some importance. Since the war in the 1990s, rail and river traffic has become less significant. However, Osijek is still the centre of the road system in the area and, thanks to a good network, the city can easily be reached from Slavonia and Baranja using state road number 2 heading south from Varaždin, or the same number 2 road north from Vukovar and the E73 from Hungary. There is also an efficient public bus service. About 7 km (4 miles) from Osijek there is a domestic airport with daily connections to Zagreb. Osijek itself has an excellent tram service which makes it easy to get around the city.



Locator Map



# • Daruvar

Man F2 10,000 St Osijek 130 km (81 miles): Zagreb 150 km (93 miles) 🖨 👼 🚺 Trg kralja Tomislava 12. (043) 331 382. Wine exhibition (May/June) wyisitdaruyar.hr

This spa town was known as Aguae Balissae in the time of the Roman Empire for the quality of its hot water spring. the source of which is at the foot of the Panuk mountains

The town developed from three medieval settlements In 1760 the area was bought by a Hungarian count, Antun Janković, who built a Baroque castle he named Daruvar, and the first spa. Today, Daruvar (meaning "city of the crane") has hotels, a medical centre (Daruvarske toplice) offering the spa waters, the Daruvar wine road and a thermal water park. Aquae Balissae

. There are two 18th-century churches in the town, one Catholic and one Orthodox Daruvar is also a centre for the Czech people in Croatia, who maintain the Czech language and customs

# ( Spa

Juliiev Park. **Tel** (043) 623 620.

# **2** Lipik

Map E2. 🔼 2,300. 🛣 Osijek, 93 km (58 miles); Zagreb, 155 km (96 miles), 🗐 📟 from Zagreb. 🪺 Trg kralja Tomislava 3, (034) 421 600. M June in Lipik (Jun).

The spa area (Aguae Balissae) was known in Roman times for its waters. In the late 18th century a hot water spring, rich in minerals, was rediscovered and Lipik became one of the most famous spas in Croatia. It was especially popular between the two World Wars. Lipik was damaged in the 1991 war, but a new spa has been built and the hotels and medical centres. restored. Lipik is also known for breeding the famous Lipizzaner horses; its horse-riding and cycle trails are popular with visitors.

#### () Spa (Toplice)

Marije Terezije 13. Tel (034) 440 700.



Baroque building in Požega's main square

# Nova Gradiška

Map E2, 77 13,300, 7 Osijek, 93 km (58 miles); Zagreb, 155 km (96 miles). (035) 361 610. (035) 361 219. Slavonskih graničara 7, (035) 361 494. W tzana.hr

In 1748 this town was first founded as Fredrichsdorf by the Viennese, who planned to build a fortress here. The town. situated at the foot of Mount Psuni is built on a fertile plain An agricultural market is regularly held in the main square, which is lined with Baroque buildings.

The Neo-Classical Church of St Stephen of Hungary (Sv. Stjepan Kralj) is now the Immaculate Conception. The Baroque Sanctuary of St Theresa (Sv. Terezija) dates from 1756.

1 Immaculate Conception Aloiziia Stepinca 1. **Tel** (035) 362 203. Open 8am-6pm daily.



Nova Gradiška

# 4 Požega

Map F2. 73 21.000. St Osijek, 67 km (42 miles); Zagreb, 175 km (109 miles). (034) 273 911. **(334)** 273 133. Antuna Kanižlića 3. (034) 274 900. Feast of St Gregory (12 Mar), Music Festival Aurea Fest (early Sep).

### w pozega-tz.hr

The Romans first founded this town, a halfway settlement between the towns now called Sisak and Osiiek, with the name of Incerum. In the 11th century it was one of the centres from which the heretical movement of the Bogomili spread; after their repression in the 12th century, properties in the environs of the city were granted to the Templars by King Bela IV.

In 1285 the Franciscans founded a monastery, the church of which was used as a mosque during the Turkish occupation. In the 18th and 19th centuries the town was called the "Athens of Slavonia" for the cultural events held to commemorate the expulsion of the Turks in 1691. The city took on a new look during this period: in the main square, Trg Sv. Trojstva, buildings with stucco and Baroque porticoes were built.

In the square stands a column. a memorial to plague victims made in 1749 by Gabrijel Graniciie. To one side of the square is the renovated 18thcentury Church of St Francis (Sv. Franjo). The monastery alongside still houses a community of Franciscan monks.

Interesting examples of Baroque architecture in the town include the Jesuit College (1711) and Gymnasium (1726), opened by the Jesuits who, in 1761, also founded the Požega Academy. Dating from 1763, the Church of **St Theresa** (Sv. Terezija Avilska) became a cathedral in 1997. The frescoed walls are by Celestin Medović and Otron Iveković.

The Church of **St Lawrence** (Sv. Lovro, 14th century) was renovated in Baroque style in the early 18th century. It still

the early 18th century. It still has some 14th-century frescoes. There are also tombstones testifying to the city's glory; one is for the poet Antun Kanižlić (1699–1777). In the square between the Church of St Francis and the Gymnasium is a statue of Luka Ibrišimović, a Franciscan who distinguished himself

in the battles against the Turks. The **Civic Museum** (Gradski muzej) contains an assortment of archaeological finds, Romanesque reliefs and Baroque paintings.

Every year on 12 March Požega holds an event called Grgurevo, to commemorate a local victory over the Turks won in 1688.

#### ff St Theresa

Trg sv. Terezije 13. **Tel** (034) 274 321. **Open** 8am–noon, 3–6pm daily.

#### **M** Civic Museum

Matice hrvatske 1. **Tel** (034) 272 130. **Open** 9am–2pm Mon–Fri, by appt Sat & Sun.



A wine-producing centre, the town is famous for a winery founded by the Cistercians. In 1232, the order built a monastery here and encouraged the cultivation of vines. After Turkish rule, at the end of the 17th century, Jesuits took over the monastery and wine-making resumed. The

Cistercian cellars are still intact and wine is still an important industry.

The Jesuits also built the **Church** of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Crkva rođenja Blažene Djevice

which houses a painting of the

Madonna with Child by A Cebej (1759).

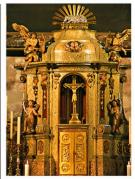


14th-century fresco in the church of St Lawrence, Požega

# Slavonski Brod

Map F3. ▲ 60,000. ★ Osijek, 100 km (62 miles); Zagreb, 197 km (122 miles). ♠ (060) 333 444. ➡ Trg Hrvatskog proljeća, (060) 310 310. ♣ Local: Vukovarska 1, (099) 320 41 69. Regional: Petra Krešimira IV 2, (035) 408 393. ♣ Brodsko kolo: folk festival (mid-Jun). ₩ tzqsb.hr

Built on the site of the Roman town Marsonia, this town was placed so as to monitor the traffic on the river Sava, the border with Bosnia-Herzegovina. The town



Baroque altar in Holy Trinity Church in Slavonski Brod

belonged to the counts Berislavić-Grabarski from the Middle Ages to 1526 when it was conquered by the Turks, who occupied it until 1691.

To defend the border, in 1741 the Viennese government built a fort with barracks, residences for governors and religious buildings. Damaged during World War II and again in the war in 1991, the buildings are under repair: some are used as schools and others house museums and galleries.

The town has grown beyond the original ramparts. Along the banks of the Sava is a **Franciscan Monastery**, dating from 1725, which has been renovated, and the Baroque Church of the **Holy Trinity** (Sv. Trojstvo) with many statues, paintings and altars.

The **Regional Civic Museum** (Muzej Brodskog Posavlja) contains historic documents and archaeological, geological and ethnological finds from the region.

The well-known Croatian writer Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić (1874–1938) spent much of her life in this town. She wrote fairytales for children: among her most famous works are Fisherman Palunco, Jagor and The Forest of Stribor. The town is also known for its folklore festival (Brodsko kolo) held in June.

### Regional Civic Museum

Ulica Ante Starčevića 40. **Tel** (035) 447 415. **Open** 10am−1pm, 5–8pm Mon– Fri, 10am−1pm Sun. **Closed** Sat & 25 Dec, 1 Jan. **(a)** (by appt). **(b)** No flash photography. **(b) (m) (m) (b) (c) (b) (c)** 



Cloisters of the Franciscan monastery at Slavonski Brod



View of the 19th-century red-brick Cathedral of St Peter in Đakovo

# Vrpolje

Map F3. A 2,200. Osijek, 39 km (24 miles). from Osijek. Regional: Petra Krešimira IV, 2, Slavonski Brod (035) 408 393.

A small country town, Vrpolie is known as the birthplace of the sculptor Ivan Meštrović (1883-1962) (see p163), Many of the artist's works, donated to the town he held in great affection can be seen here In the small parish Church of St John the Baptist (Sveti Ivan Krstitelj, 1774) is his statue of St John the Baptist, a relief and a crucifix, while outside is a striking Bust of a Woman. The Ivan Meštrović Gallery (Spomen galerija) has 30 of his works on display: casts, bronzes and wooden sculptures.

# • Đakovo

Map F2. ⚠ 21,000. ☒ Osijek, 48 km (22 miles). ☒ (031) 811 360. ☒ (060) 302 030. ☒ Kralja Tomislava 3, (031) 812 319. ☒ Đakovo embroidery, Đakovački vezovi (first week in Jul). ☒ tzdjakovo.eu

In medieval times this town was known by the name of Civitas Dyaco, and later as Castrum Dyaco. Late in the 13th century it became a bishopric, and its influence extended over most of Slavonia and Bosnia. Conquered and destroyed by the Turks in 1536, it became a Muslim centre and a mosque was built. After Turkish rule, the city was renovated. Only the

mosque, at the end of the central avenue, was retained. It was converted into the parish church of All Saints (Svi Sveti) in the 18th century.

The central square is dominated by the Cathedral of St Peter (Sv. Petar), built between 1866 and 1882 by Bishop Josip Jurai Strossmaver: the project was the work of the Viennese architects Karl Rösner and Friedrich von Schmidt. The imposing facade is flanked by two 84-m (275-ft) belfries. The interior has frescoes by Maksimiliian and Liudevit Seitz, sculptures by Ignazio Donegani and Tomas Vodcka. and decorations by Giuseppe Voltolini from the 19th century. The crypt houses the tombs of the bishops Strossmayer and Ivan de Zela. Next to the church is the 18thcentury Bishop's Palace, which has an ornate Baroque doorway.

The Festival of Embroidery of Dakovo (Dakovački vezovi) is held at the beginning of July with displays of traditional local costumes, folk dancing and wine tasting.

Dakovo has a long-lasting tradition of horse-breeding. The State Stud Farm was established here in 1506, which makes it one of the oldest stud farms in Europe. Lipizzan horses have been bred at this farm since the beginning of the 18th century.

#### Cathedral of St Peter

Strossmayerov trg. Tel (031) 802 200. **Open** 6:30am–noon, 3–7pm daily.

# Novi Mikanovci

The village is famous for the small Romanesque Church of **St Bartholomew** (Sveti Bartol), from the first half of the 13th century, a rare example of architecture from before Turkish rule. The church stands in a cemetery and is called the "Tower of Pisa of Slavonia" because of its leaning bell tower, which appears to be held up by the façade. At the cemetery entrance is a colourful statue of St Bartholomew.

# **O** Županja

### w tz-zupanja.hr

On the border with Bosnia-Herzegovina, Županja lies along a wide bend in the Sava River. The area has been inhabited since ancient times; Bronze Age finds have been discovered in a necropolis. One of the first Croat settlements was set up here. After Turkish rule it became one of the military staging posts on the Vojna krajina (Military Frontier) (see p41) and a trading centre.

The **Frontier House** is a wooden building originally from the early 19th century, used by tax collectors.

Damaged during the bombings



Embroidered head-dress in the Ethnographic Museum, Županja

in the 1990s and now restored, it houses the **Ethnographic Museum** (Zavičajni muzej "Stjepan Gruber").

#### **IIII** Ethnographic Museum

Savska 3. **Tel** (032) 837 101. **Open** 7am–7pm Mon–Fri, 5–7pm Sat & Sun.

# Vinkovci

Map F2. ⚠ 33,000. ☒ Osijek, 43 km (27 miles). ☒ (032) 308 215. ☒ (060) 332 233. ☒ Local: Trg bana Josipa Śokčevića 3, (032) 334 653; Regional: Glagoljaška 27, (032) 338 425. ☒ Moman Days in Vinkovci (May); Autumn in Vinkovci, Vinkovačke jeseni (Sep). ☒ tz-vinkovci.hr

A settlement existed here as far back as 6000 BC; the Romans named it Aurelia Cibalae. It was the birthplace of the Emperors Valens and Valentinian, and a bishop's see from the 4th century. In the Middle Ages it was called Zenthelye, because of the presence of the (now abandoned) Church of **St Elias** (Sv. Ilija). The 12th-century church is one of the oldest monuments in Slavonia.

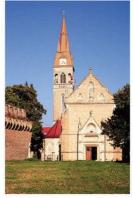
The Civic Museum (Gradski muzej), situated in the former 18th-century Austrian barracks in the main square, holds finds from the Roman necropolis and has a folklore collection. Large Roman sarcophagi are displayed in the museum's lapidarium.

Facing the garden is the church of SS Eusebius and Pollio (Sv. Euzebije i Polion) from 1775, and the Town Hall.

Each September a festival of music and popular traditions is held in the town and groups from all over the country take part. The streets are decorated, stallholders sell local produce, and artists perform.

### **IIII** Civic Museum

Trg bana Šokčevića 16. Tel (032) 332 504. Open Mar–Jul & Sep–Dec: 9am– 3pm Tue & Wed, 9am–7pm Thu & Fri, 9am–1pm Sat; Jan, Feb & Aug: 8am–3pm Mon–Fri. □



Church of St Ivan, next to the fortified walls in Ilok

# @ Ilok

Map G2. M 6,000. S Osijek, 62 km (38 miles). Uvkovar, 39 km (24 miles). Trg Nikole Iločkog 2, (032) 590 020. S Grape harvest festival (first week in Sep).

#### w turizamilok.hr

Overlooking a wide loop in the River Danube, Ilok is the easternmost city in Croatia and the centre of the region of Srijem, famous since Roman times for its wine. In the late

> Roman era the city grew in importance and took the name

> > of Cuccium.
> > In the Middle
> > Ages it was a
> > castrum with high
> > walls, towers and
> > fortified buildings.
> > The defences
> > were reinforced in

1365, and the town was given to Nikola Kont, whose family later acquired the title of Counts of llok.

Exhibit in the Civic

Museum Vinkovci

Around the middle of the 15th century, the Church and Monastery of **St Ivan Kapistran** (Sv. Ivan Kapistran) were built inside the fort. Ivan Kapistran was a Franciscan who was famous for uniting Christian forces against the Turks and who died here in 1456. When Ilok became a major Turkish administrative and military centre in the 16th century, mosques and baths were added to the fortress.

Both the church and the monastery have been renovated and between them, long stretches of the ancient walls can still be seen. Parts of one of the Turkish baths are still visible.

In 1683, after his role in winning the battle of Vienna, Commander Livio Odescalchi was given the town of Ilok by the Austrian Emperor. In this idyllic setting he built a U-shaped mansion, **Odescalchi Manor**. Today, the mansion houses public offices and the **Civic Museum** (Gradski muzej) with archaeological and ethnographic collections. The wines of Ilok are still produced here in the cellars, among them a dry white wine called Traminac.

# f Church and Monastery of St Ivan Kapistran

O M Barbarića 4. **Tel** (032) 590 073. **Open** by appt or before Mass.

# Odescalchi Manor and

Setalište oca Mladena Barbarića 5. **Tel** (032) 827 410. **Open** 8am–6pm daily, wine tastings only. Civic Museum: **Open** 9am–6pm Fri, 9am–3pm Tue–Thu, 11am–6pm Sat.



Mansion built by Commander Livio Odescalchi in Ilok

# **®** Šarengrad

Map G2. ▲ 100. ★ Osijek, 53 km (33 miles). ➡ Vukovar, 30 km (19 miles). ✔ Regional: Vinkovci, (032) 338 425.

A medieval fort once controlled the heavy traffic along the river Danube at this spot. In the 15th century, Count Ivan Morović added

# a Franciscan Monastery.

The fort, however, was destroyed during the war with the Turks and the area remained uninhabited until their departure late in the 17th century.

With the return of the inhabitants, the monks set up a school and collected archaeological items for a museum

During the break-up of former Yugoslavia between 1991 and 1995, the area was heavily bombed. The church and monastery have since been restored and the statue of St Anthony of Padua has been put back in position. From the hill there are good views of the Danube

# Vukovar

Map G2. 🔝 28,000. 🛒 Osijek, 33 km (20 miles). 😱 Priljevo 2. 😅 from Vinkovci. 🚺 J Strossmayera 15, (032) 442 889. 🚳 Vukovar Film Festival (end Aug). 🕶 turizamvukovar.hr

This Baroque city was once known for its churches, elegant 18th-century buildings, numerous museums and art galleries. However, Vukovar has come to symbolize the war which raged in Slavonia in 1991, when it was bombed by the Serbs and the JNA (Yugoslav People's Army). Many years have been spent restoring the historic Baroque nucleus from the damage it sustained, and work on the town is still ongoing.

Vukovar has a very long history, as evidenced by the famous Dove of Vučedol from 2000 BC. This vessel, found 5 km (3 miles) from Vukovar, is now in the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb (see pp 168–9).

The city, at the confluence of the Danube and the river Vuka, was known as Volko, Walk or Wolkov (Vukovo in Croatian) in the Middle Ages. Later it was given to various families: the Horvat, the Gorjanski and the Talovci. Conquered by the Turks, Vukovar became a military garrison and a key trading centre. After libera-tion from

the Turks in 1687, it resumed its role as an advance post of the Christian Catholic world against the Muslim and Orthodox religions.

In 1736, it was given to the Eltz counts, who called the town Vukovar. As the inhabitants were Catholics or of the Orthodox faith, churches were built

churches were built for both religions, including a Franciscan monastery (1727).

Dove of Vučedol.

symbol of Vukovar

In 1751, the Eltz family built a huge Baroque mansion. It was nationalized after World War II and then housed the Vukovar Municipal Museum (Gradski muzei Vukovar). Badly damaged. in 1991, its contents were taken to Novi Sad and Belgrade In 2001 the collections were returned, and gradually restored. The new permanent exhibits explore not only the rich archaeological history of the area and the development of the city. but also its ethnic heritage and. via a multimedia presentation, the chronology of the recent war. The Catholic Church of SS Philip and James (Sv. Filip i Jakov) and the Orthodox Church of St Nicholas (Sv. Nikolai) were also badly damaged in 1991.

iii Vukovar Municipal Museum Županijska 2. Tel (032) 441 270. Open 7am–3pm Mon–Fri, Sat & Sun by appt.

### **Environs**

Located about 4 km (2 miles) downstream from the centre of Vukovar and situated on the right bank of the Danube is the Vučedol archaeological site, one of the most prominent archaeological sites in Europe. It is home to the **Vučedol Culture Museum**, which houses

exhibits depicting the cultures that have occupied this site since 3 000 BC

#### IIII Vučedol Culture Museum

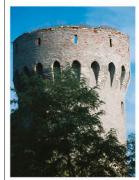
Vučedol 252. **Tel** (032) 373 930. **Open** 10am–6pm Tue–Sun.

# **©** Frdut

The town of Erdut gained a place in history when, on 12 November 1995, an agreement between Croatia and Yugoslavia was drawn up here, setting out the return of Slavonia and Baranja to Croatia after almost four years of Serb occupation.

The town occupies an important strategic position overlooking the Danube, and a fortification was erected in Roman times. In the medieval period a **castle** was built. It was damaged by the Turks, but then rebuilt by them. The castle was also used by the Habsburgs. Two towers, one circular and one square, survive from the old castle.

Erdut is also famous for wine. Its winery's 75,000-litre, 150-year-old oak barrel is listed in the *Guinness Book of Records*. The 19th-century Adamović-Cseh Castle is next to the winery.



The circular tower of the medieval castle. Erdut

# **o** Osijek

See pp194-7.



Naive sculpture on show at Ernestinovo

# **©** Ernestinovo

Map F2. ⚠ 1,200. ☒ Osijek, 20 km (12 miles). from Osijek. ☑ Regional: Kapucinska 40, Osijek, (031) 214 852. ☒ Open-air exhibition of sculpture (Aud).

For many years, well-known sculptors have been meeting in Ernestinovo to present their work in a summer show This small village is now famous for its open-air exhibitions. The first exhibition was organized in 1976 by the sculptor Petar Smaiić. It took place in exile from 1991 to 1996 and returned to Ernestinovo the following year. Many works of art are displayed and offered for sale in the village galleries. Ernestinovo was badly damaged during the war in the 1990s

# Mature Park

See pp198-9.

# **©** Topolje

Map F2. 3200. Osijek, 46 km (28 miles). Beli Manastir, 16 km (10 miles). From Osijek. Regional: Kapucinska 40, Osijek, (031) 214 852.

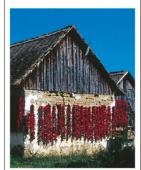
In 1687, after the victory in Vienna over the Turks, Prince Eugene of Savoy, commander of the Imperial forces, decided to build a church to commemorate the victory in the countryside surrounding Topolie The location has narticular charm as the church is set among trees standing alone among a natchwork of fields of maize and tobacco. The church was sacked however and nearly completely destroyed in the conflicts following the break-up of former Yugoslavia The huilding is now undergoing extensive restoration although the splendid furnishings have sadly been lost.

Here, as in Darda (right), there are several Hungarian communities, who, together with the Croats, are gradually returning after their exile during the Yugoslav occupation. The Hungarian-style houses with their overhanging roofs add a distinctive character to the area. In the autumn, long strings of chilli peppers can be seen hanging out to dry in the sun.

#### Environs

Around 10 km (6 miles) east of Topolje is the town of **Batina**. In Roman times this was the site of a fortress on the banks of the River Danube and was known by the name of Ad Militarae. Until the war of 1991, which depopulated this small town set among hills and vineyards, there was a bridge connecting Baranja with Hungary and Vojvodina, but since its destruction, both river and road traffic have stopped.

On one of the small hills near Topolje, a tall monument in white stone with a female figure



Hungarian-style houses with chilli peppers hanging to dry, Topolje

in bronze representing Victory commemorates the fallen of World War II. It is the work of one of the great Croatian artists of the 20th century, Antun Augustinčić (see p.24)



Mansion of the Esterházy barons, now the Town Hall of Darda

## @ Darda

Map F2. ↑ 5,400. ↑ Osijek, 15km (9 miles). ★ from Osijek. ↑ Regional: Kapucinska 40, Osijek, (031) 214 852.

An elegant mansion built by the Esterházy barons in the second half of the 18th century, now renovated and used as the Town Hall is the only evidence of Darda's history. Darda was once a fortified city, represented on 17th-century maps as a large fortress, connected to Osijek by the 8-km (5-mile) bridge of Solimano, Built in 1566 to cross marshland, the bridge was destroyed in 1664 by Nikola Zrinski (see p181) to block the Turkish army. On that occasion the city was subsequently devastated.

In the recent war in the 1990s, two 18th-century churches were destroyed: the Catholic church of St John the Baptist (Sv. Ivan Krstitelj) and the Orthodox church of St Michael (Sv. Mihajlo).

#### **Environs**

Bilje, 4 km (2 miles) south of Darda, is the site of the information office for the Kopački Rit Nature Park (see pp 198–9). It is housed in a palace built by Prince Eugene of Savoy, who was granted the small town of Bilje after the victory in Vienna over the Turks (1687).

# Osiiek

The capital of Slavonia sits in the middle of a fertile plain. It is a centre of industry, a university town, and a lively Central European city with wide roads linking three districts: the Fort (Tyrđa), Lower Town (Donii grad) and Upper Town (Gornii grad). The city developed in 1786 when the three areas merged. Due to its position on the River Drava, Osijek has always played a strategic role. In 1809 Emperor Francis I declared it a Royal Free Town (this document is now in the Museum of Slavonia). In 1991, after the declaration of independence by Croatia, the city was bombed for over a year by Yugoslay forces and much of the old centre (Upper Town) was damaged. Liberated in 1995, in 1998 Osijek became part of the Croat state again.



The main square in the heart of Tvrđa

#### **Exploring Osijek**

The Fort (Tvrđa) is the fortified centre of Osiiek. It was constructed in the early 18th century after liberation from the Turks. Fortunately, Tvrđa did not suffer serious damage during the war in the 1990s. As a result it has preserved its Baroque architecture, which is characterized by simple, austere lines, unusual at this time. This lack of ornamentation was due to the fact that the buildings were intended for use by soldiers and office workers.

Facing Trg Sv. Troistva, the central square of Tvrđa, named after the Holy Trinity, are various Baroque buildings, including the Building of the Guard, with an 18th-century clock tower, and the General Headquarters of Slavonia, which is now part of the university, and recognizable by its monumental Baroque entrance.

The heart of city life is the main square in the Upper Town, Trg Ante Starčevića, with its shops, bars and restaurants. Facing the square is the County building, built in the early 20th century in the Renaissance style.

### **Museum of Slavonia** Muzei Slavoniie

Trg sv. Troistva 6, Tvrđa, Tel (031) 250 731. Open 10am-6pm Tue-Sat. € Ø Ø P w mso.hr

On Tvrđa central square, the old Town Hall has housed the Museum of Slavonia since 1946. Geological, prehistoric, Greek, Illyrian and Roman objects are on display here. One section is dedicated to ancient Roman Mursa with statues, tombstones, architectural pieces and a coin collection.

Other sections are dedicated to folklore with exhibits of richly decorated costumes. Today these clothes provide models for a flourishing handicrafts industry making golden silk fabrics.

#### The Church of the Holy Cross Sv. Križ

Franjevačka ulica Tvrđa Tel (031) 208 177. Open 8am-noon, 3-8pm. Northeast of the main square. on the site of a sacred medieval huilding stands the Church of the Holy Cross, built by the Franciscans between 1709 and 1720. Next to this is the monastery (1699-1767) which housed the first printing press in Slavonia (1735), and from the mid-18th century also housed schools of philosophy and theology. In the church is a statue of the Virgin from the 15th century and some liturgical furnishings.

#### (†) Church of St Michael Sv. Mihovil

Tra Juria Križanića, Tvrđa. Tel (031) 208 990 Open before Mass

Standing a little way back from the square is the Church of St Michael, which was built by the Jesuits. The facade is flanked by two bell towers, and the monastery has a splendid doorway (1719) Below street level the foundations of the 16th-century Kasim-paša mosque are still visible.



War memorial in Kralja Držislava park

### Europe Avenue Europska avenija

This is the main road of Osiiek. linking the Fort (Tvrđa) to the Upper Town (Gornji grad). It crosses some of the city's parks, one of which is Kralja Držislava park, site of a striking bronze memorial to the fallen of the 78th Infantry Regiment (Soldier in the Throes of Death), by Robert Frangeš-Mihanović (1894), which is regarded as the first modern sculpture in Croatia.



Interior of the Neo-Gothic Church of SS Peter and Paul

# Museum of Fine Arts

The Museum of Fine Arts, founded in 1954, is housed in an elegant 19th-century house. It has collections of paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as works by contemporary Croatian artists. There is also a section dedicated to the Osijek School.

# Church and Monastery of St. James

#### Sv. Jakov

Kapucinska ulica 41, Gornji grad. **Tel** (031) 201 182. **Open** 6:30am– noon. 4–8pm & by appt.

The oldest building in Upper Town is the Church of St James (1702–27), with a Capuchin monastery. In the sacristy are mid-18th-century paintings about the life of St Francis.

# (†) Church of SS Peter and Paul

### Sv. Petar i Pavao

Trg Marina Držica, Gornji grad. **Tel** (031) 310 020. **Open** 2–6:30pm Mon, 9am–6:30pm Tue–Fri.

This imposing Neo-Gothic church is dedicated to St Peter and St Paul The church is known as "katedrala" (cathedral) by the locals because of its size: the facade has towers 90 m (295 ft) high. It was designed by Franz Langenberg and built in the late 19th century. The 40 stained-glass windows and some of the sculptures are by the Viennese artist Eduard Hauser Most of the windows were bomb-damaged but have been restored.

#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Map F2. [A] 90,000. [i] Local: Županijska 2, (031) 203 755; Regional: Kapucinska 40 (031) 214 852. [c] City day (2 Dec), Summer Nights of Osijek (Jun– Aug) [w] tzosijek hr

#### Transport

20 km (12 miles) Vukovarska 67, (060) 339 339. ■ Bartola Kašića, (060) 334 466. ☐ Trg Ružičke, (031) 205 155.

# Croatian National Theatre Hrvatsko narodno kazalište

Županijska ulica 9, Gornji grad. **Tel** (031) 220 700.

The Croatian National Theatre was built in the Moorish style in the 19th century. Opera and drama productions are put on from September to June.



Interior of the Croatian National Theatre

# Osijek City Centre

- ① Museum of Slavonia
- Church of the Holy Cross
- 3 Church of St Michael
- 4 Europe Avenue
- Museum of Fine Arts
- 6 Church of St James
- (7) Church of SS Peter and Paul
- (8) Croatian National Theatre



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# Street-by-Street: the Fort (Tyrđa)

The fortified centre of Osiiek (Tyrđa) was built on the site of the Roman settlement of Mursa, which, in 131 AD. became the capital of Lower Pannonia with the name of Colonia Aelia Mursa. Destroyed by the Avars and rebuilt by the Croats, it remained a military and administrative centre until it was attacked and burned by the Turks in 1526. Making the most of the strategic position, the Turks rebuilt the fort and, under Suleyman II, also constructed a bridge across the Drava. After the expulsion of the Turks in 1687, the Austrian Emperor destroyed the mosques and other reminders of Turkish rule. He then built a fortified series ★ Church of St Michael of buildings, more like a city than a fort. Tyrda now houses Constructed by Jesuits in the first the Town Hall, the university faculties, and the Museum half of the 18th century, the church has a Baroque facade flanked by of Slavonia. The only remaining part of the ramparts is two towers towards the river Drava and includes the Water Gate (Vodena Vrata). FRANJERUHACA **Building of the Guard** On the western side of the square stands the Building of the Guard, with a clock tower from the 18th century. It now KAMILA FIRINGERA houses the Archaeological Museum. Croatian Academy of Science and Arts Key

Plague Column

The centre of the square is dominated by the "column of the plague", erected in 1729 in thanks for the ending of an outbreak of the disease.

Suggested route



# **Church and Monastery of the Holy Cross**

The church, erected by Franciscans between 1709 and 1720, is next to the monastery which housed the first printing press in Slavonia.



# View of Osijek and the River Drava

Splendid views of the city can be enjoyed from the banks of the Drava. It was once important for river trading, but trade is now practically non-existent.

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★ Museum of Slavonia
This museum contains
interesting collections of
geological, prehistoric, Greek,
Illyrian and Roman material.

**Headquarters of Slavonia**On the northern side of the main square

of Tvrđa is the former Headquarters of Slavonia, now the University Rectorate, easily recognized by the imposing façade.

# ® Kopački Rit Nature Park

Park prirode Kopački rit

This triangular piece of land is bordered by the final stretch of the river Drava before it meets the Danube. The landscape changes with the seasons and becomes flooded when the Danube overflows. The area covers 177 sq.km (68 sq.miles) and can turn into an immense wetland marsh. At other times it is a vast grassland plain with pools and ponds. There are also dry areas which support enormous willows and tall oak trees. A nature reserve since 1967, it has a rich and varied fauna and for many months of the year provides a sanctuary for hundreds of different species of bird, both migratory and domestic. A high embankment on the western side stops the further spread of the flood waters. On top is a road which allows cars to cross this part of the park.



### White Storks One of the park's symbols, the white stork is especially visible in the breeding season.

Sarvath Pond

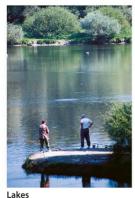


Park Entrance The main entrance to the Kopački Rit Park is in the village of Bilie (see p193).

0 kilometres 0 miles



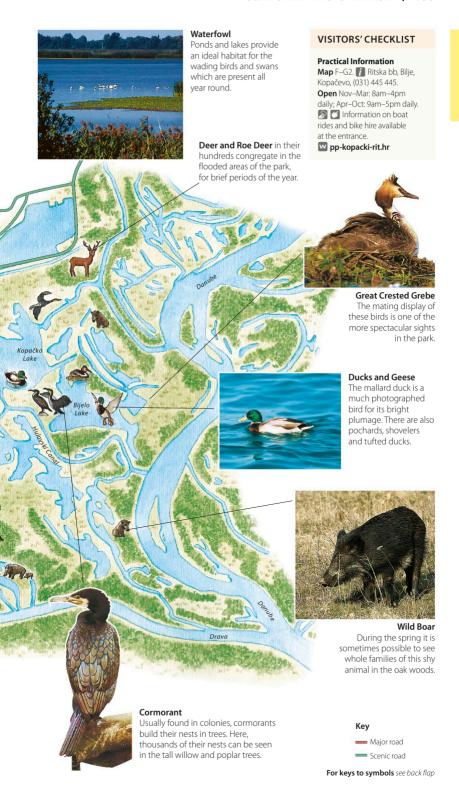
Black Storks are rare; only a few dozen pairs of the bird inhabit the park.



Forty different species of fish live in the lakes and ponds which form in the park.

Drava White-Tailed Eagle The many birds of prey maintain a balance among the







Thermal spa in the village of Bizovac

# Bizovac

Map F2. ⚠ 2,300. ☑ Osijek, 20 km (12 miles). ☑ from Osijek. ☑ from Osijek. ☑ from Osijek. ☑ Regional: Kapucinska 40, Osijek, (031) 214 852.

During the search for oil in the middle of the 20th century, a hot water spring was discovered here. The water of the spring reaches a temperature of 90°C (194°F) and is rich in minerals. A few years later, the thermal spa of Bizovačke toplice was built. The spa proved to be extremely successful and it is now an enormous complex including a hotel, two large swimming pools, and cabins for thermal baths. Every day hundreds of auests come here to undergo thermal treatments which are helpful in treating rheumatic and respiratory illnesses, and in healing injuries.

The small centre of Bizovac is also well known in Slavonia for its exquisite gold and silver embroidery. The work is carried out by the young women of the area, usually to a commission.

# Bizovačke toplice Sunčana 39. Tel (031) 685 100. bizovacke-toplice.hr

#### **Environs**

Around 9 km (5 miles) south of Bizovac is the village of **Brodanci**, famous for the Olympics of Ancient Sports, held here in August every year. During the competition, athletes take part in some of the sports once practised by the peasants of Slavonia,

such as tug-of-war, boulderthrowing, bare-back riding and other strenuous challenges and competitions.

A lively popular festival has developed around the event; musicians perform in the streets and there are displays of old crafts. Local handicrafts can be bought and regional food can be sampled.

# Valpovo

Map F2. ↑ 8,000. ↑ Osijek, 30 km (18 miles). □ (060) 390 060. ↑ Trg kralja Tomislava 2, (031) 650 306. ↑ Summer in Valpovo: dancing, folk music and theatrical shows (summer). □ tz-valpovo.hr

The centre of Valpovo stands on the remains of the fort of Lovallia, one of many fortified settlements which the Romans established on the Pannonian plain. In the Middle Ages, a castle was erected to keep a look-out over the nearby Drava river. The castle was later granted to the Morović, Gorjanski and Norman families. After the Turkish conquest in 1526, the castle was used as a garrison.

In 1687, after the expulsion of the Turks, the area was handed over to the Hilleprand Prandau family. At the beginning of the 19th century the castle was destroyed by fire and was then extensively rebuilt as a larger building, which today houses the **Valpovo Museum** (Muzej Valpovštine). The museum contains period furniture and interesting archaeological finds. The complex stands in a large



The imposing castle at Valpovo, now a museum

park and a moat surrounds the medieval walls, the tower, the new building and the church. A town developed around the fort, and with it the splendid Baroque church of the Immaculate Conception (Začeće Marijino) of 1722.

### **IIII** Valpovo Museum

Dvorac Prandau-Normann. **Tel** (031) 650 639. **Open** 4–7pm (8pm in summer) Mon & Thu, 10am–noon Tue, Wed & Fri, 3–6pm Sat.



Majláth, a mock-medieval manor in the town of Donii Miholiac

# Donji Miholjac

Map F2. ⚠ 6,700. ☒ Osijek, 45 km (28 miles). ☒ Valpovo, 20 km (12 miles); Našice, 30 km (18 miles). (060) 357 060. ☒ Trg Ante Starčevića 2, (031) 633 103. ☒ Miholjačko sijelo: festival in costume (summer).

# w tz-donjimiholjac.hr

On the banks of the Drava river, this small town lies on the Hungarian border. All traces of the past have been erased, except for the Church of St Michael (Sv. Mihovil). The mock-medieval Majláth Manor was built at the beginning of the 20th century by the Majláth family. It has pinnacles and a tall tower on the façade. The manor is now the Town Hall.

## **Majláth Manor**

Vukovarska 1. **Tel** Tourist office (031) 633 103. **Open** by appt.

#### **Environs**

About 25 km (15 miles) west is the village of **Čađavica**. Traces from ancient Croatian settlements have been discovered near here. The Romanesque church of St Peter was used by the Turks as a mosque and was renovated in the 18th century.

# M Našica

Map F2. 🔼 8.500. 🛪 Osiiek, 42 km (26 miles), (26 mi 334 030. 7 Trg dr. Franje Tuđmana 4, (031) 614 951 W tznasice.hr

A small plateau is the setting for the town of Našice which is surrounded by vinevards and woods. Built on the site of an ancient settlement, it was referred to in the first half of the 13th century under the name of Nekche, as property of the Knights Templar, After the dissolution of this order in 1312, it passed to the Gorianski nobles and. later, through marriage to the counts of llok, before falling into the hands of the Turkish forces in 1532

After the expulsion of the Turks Našice's fortunes changed. The Franciscans returned and restored the Church of St Anthony of Padua (Sv. Antun Padovanski). They also rebuilt their monastery, which had been founded here at the start of the 14th century Both needed repairing after war damage suffered in 1991

A short distance away is a large manor house, built at the beginning of the 19th century in Neo-Classical style by the Peiačević family. where the musician Dora Peiačević (1885-1923) lived. Situated in a large park, the

two-storey building has been restored. This building is now the Civic Museum

# (i) Civic Museum

Peiačevićev trg 5. **Tel** (031) 613 414. Open 8am-3pm Mon-Fri. (by appt). Z w zmn.hr

# @ Orahovica

Map F2. 55 4.300. 57 Osijek. 62 km (38 miles). 🗐 (033) 646 079. (033) 673 231. 7 Trg sv. Florijana bb, (033) 673 540. A Spring in Orahovica: folklore event (Jun). w tzgorahovica.hr

The town of Orahovica is well known in Croatia for its wines It was a feudal estate in 1228 and later a Turkish garrison. acquiring its present-day look in the 18th century

On one of the hills around the town stand the ruins of the castle Rose town (Ružica grad) one of the largest of Croatia's medieval forts. The walls were 9m (29 ft) thick and enclosed military buildings, a church. and the governor's residence The complex was so large it was often referred to as a city.

The Turks burnt down the fort. then partially restored it and used it as a military garrison. Liberated in 1690, the fort was once again used for defence. and a village, inhabited by Serbs. developed around its base.

#### **Environs**

Along the road to Kutievo, 5 km (3 miles) south of Orahovica. near the village of Duzluk, is the Orthodox Monastery of St Nicholas (Manastir Sv. Nikola). which has ancient frescoes and illuminated manuscripts Some 30 km (18 miles) from Orahovica. following the road to Virovitica, then turning left for Čeralije, is Voćin, a small village where the destruction caused by the war in 1991 is still evident. The village

second half of the 13th century by the Aba counts. Today, the houses in Voćin are in ruins. All that remains of the Church of St Mary (Sv. Marija), which was built by King John Corvinus in the first half of the 15th century is part of the apse wall.



Ornate altar in the Baroque church of St Roch, Virovitica

# ② Virovitica

Map F2. 5 16.000. Osijek. 89 km. (55 miles). 🖳 Ulica Stjepana Radića, (033) 730 121. Trg fra. B. Gerbera 1. (033) 721 113. Trg Kralja Tomislava 1, (033) 721 241. A Day of the City (16 Aug). W tz-virovitica.hr

Documents from the end of the first millennium give the town its name of Wereuche. It was declared a free town by King Coloman in 1234 and it developed into an agricultural and trading centre. Later occupied by the Turks, it remained under their rule until 1684 When it later flourished all Ottoman traces were destroyed.

The Baroque Church of St Roch (Sv. Rok), decorated by the sculptor Holzinger and the painter Göbler, dates from the 18th century. On the site of the ancient Wasserburg Castle stands the imposing Peiačević Manor (1800-4), now the Civic Museum (Gradski muzei) with archaeological and folklore collections and an art gallery.

#### **IIII** Civic Museum

Dvorac Pejačević, Trg bana Jelačića 23. Tel (033) 722 127. Open 8am-3pm Mon, Fri; 8am-7pm Tue-Thu; 10am-1pm Sat. (by appt).



lies at the foot of a large castle built in the muzejvirovitica.hr



# THE NORTHERN COUNTIES

The landscape in this part of Croatia is made up of a variety of elements: the rolling hills of Zagorje with their therapeutic spring waters and thermal spas; the county of Medimurie, which is famous for its wines; the cities of Varaždin and Čakovec, which developed around ancient castles; Koprivnica, surrounded by Jush countryside and vineyards, and Bielovar and Križevci with their palaces.

The principal towns in the area have ancient origins and two Varaždin and Križevci, were also at various times the seat of the Sabor, the Croatian Parliament Bielovar is the most recent and largest city-fortress in the country. Even before the 1991 war which affected the south of this area, the wars of the second half of the 18th century had already destroyed all evidence of the Middle Ages and Turkish occupation. However, there are many religious buildings in the area, including a number of Catholic Franciscan and Pauline monasteries in places once inhabited by Orthodox communities. Religious life is still very active here and church buildings are cherished.

The high hills of Zagorie are covered in forests, broken up only by the clearings created for imposing medieval castles. many of which have since been transformed into sumptuous Baroque residences. In Podravina, drained by the River Drava, which in some parts flows along the Hungarian border, the hills are lower and are characterized by vineyards and sparse woodland

This part of Croatia has preserved all kinds of ancient customs and traditions. a source of inspiration for the Naive art movement The home of Naive art is Hlebine, where artists such as Ivan Generalić encouraged and fostered the talent of local amateur painters.



Stacks of maize in the countryside between Belec and Marija Bistrica

The Black Madonna of Marija Bistrica, visited by pilgrims in their thousands

# **Exploring the Northern Counties**

This is an area of good, fertile agricultural land and the lush countryside produces an abundance of maize, tobacco and sunflowers. The hillsides are covered in vineyards as far as the eye can see and yield wines, good whites in particular, which can be bought along the Wine Road, from wineries or in the village shops. Despite these attractions, the region does not see a great deal of international tourism. This is particularly true of Međimurje, the valley crossed by the River Mura, granted to Croatia after World War I. Part of the population here is of Hungarian origin and the people have preserved their Hungarian customs and traditions.





## Sights at a Glance

- Varaždin pp206–7
- 2 Čakovec
- 3 Štrigova
- 4 Vinica
- 6 Lepoglava
- TrakošćanKrapina
- 8 Pregrada9 Veliki Tabor

- Kumrovec
- M Klanjec
- Bedekovčina
- Marija Bistrica
- **1** Belec
- Varaždinske Toplice
- Ludbreg
- ® Koprivnica
- Durđevac

- 20 Bjelovar
- A Križevci

#### Tou

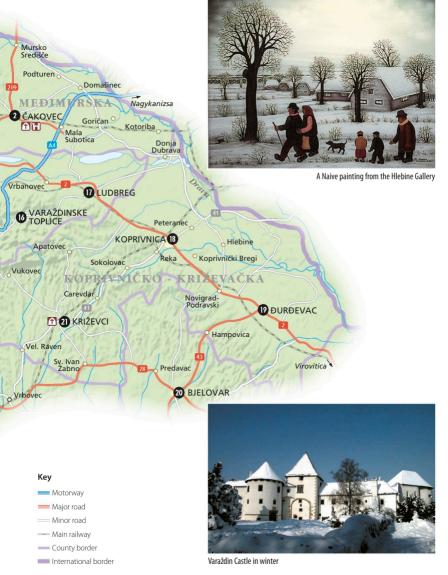
Tour of the Thermal Spas pp216–17

# Getting Around

Motorways connect Zagreb to Maribor in Slovenia. passing through Krapina, and serve Varaždin en route for Hungary. Cars still use state roads which run more or less parallel to the two motorways. State road 2 goes from the Slovenian border, northwest of Varaždin. and continues on towards Osiiek. A railway line runs alongside state road 3 and at Varaždin interconnects with railway lines from Zagreb, Slovenia and Hungary. There are also train connections to Slovenia and Hungary from Čakovec and Koprivnica stations.



Locator Man



# • Varaždin

Traces of occupation from the Neolithic age, the La Tene civilization and the Roman period have been found around Varaždin castle. Despite this, the first mention of the town is found in a document from 1181, when King Bela III confirmed the rights of the Zagreb Curia to the thermal spas in the area. In 1209, it was declared a free town by King Andrew II and it began to develop as a trading centre. In the late 14th century it passed into the hands of the counts of Celiski, followed by the counts of Frankopan, Brandenburg and Erdödy, In 1446, it was destroyed in a fire and in 1527 the Turks attacked. In 1776 another fire destroyed the houses, but the Baroque buildings for which the town is famous were fortunately spared.



The splendid castle, today home to the Civic Museum

### Castle and Civic Museum Stari grad & Gradski muzei

Strossmaverovo šetalište 7. Tel (042) 658 754. Open 9am-5pm Tue-Fri. 9am-1pm Sat & Sun. 2 5

It is unknown when exactly this castle was built, though some documents suggest it dates back to the 12th century. It was built over the ruins of an observation tower and, in the 15th century, two round towers were added. The castle was rebuilt in 1560 by the Italian architect Domenico dell'Allio who created a Renaissance structure on two floors with arcades and corridors facing courtyards.

The castle's present look dates from the time of the Erdödy counts, who added the bastions and a moat. It is now the Civic Museum, which has collections of weapons, porcelain, furniture, handicrafts, and a pharmacy from the 18th century. Remains of the wall and the Lisak tower. to the east of the castle, are the only evidence remaining of the ancient walls that existed at this site.

# M Gallery of Old and Modern Masters

Galeriia starih i novih maistora Stančićev trg 3. Tel (042) 214 172. Open 9am-5pm Tue-Fri. 9am-1pm Sat & Sun. 8 6 by appt. 8

The gallery has a large collection of works by artists from all over Europe, particularly landscapes by Flemish and Italian artists, and portraits by German and Dutch painters.

# Tomislav Square Tra kralia Tomislava

Town Hall (Gradska vijećnica): Trg kralja Tomislava 1. Tel (042) 402 508. Open by appt. Drašković Palace (Palača Drašković): Trg kralja Tomislava 3. Closed to the public.

This square is the heart of the town. Facing the square is the Town Hall (Gradska vijećnica), one of the oldest buildings in Varaždin. Built in the Gothic style in the 15th century, it has since been altered and a clock tower added. It has been the Town Hall since 1523, when Prince George of Brandenburg gave it to the city. It is guarded in summer by the Purgers, who wear richly decorated blue uniforms and bearskin hats.

To the east of the square stands **Drašković Palace** (Palača Drašković), built in the late 17th century with a Rococo facade The Croat Parliament met here in 1756-76. Opposite stands the Renaissance Ritz House one of the oldest in the town. as evidenced by the date (1540) engraved on the doorway

### (†) Cathedral of the Assumption

Uznesenia Mariiina

Pavlinska ulica 4. Tel (042) 210 688. Open 9:30am-12:30pm, 4-7pm daily.

The Church of the Assumption hecame a cathedral in 1997 Both the church and the annexed monastery were built in the first half of the 17th century by the Jesuits. Later. the Pauline order moved in.

The cathedral's tall facade is enlivened by pillars. The interior is a triumph of the Baroque. The main altar occupies the width of the central nave and has gilded columns, stuccoes and engravings. At the centre of the altar is an Assumption of the Virgin reminiscent of Titian's work in Venice, Evenings of Baroque music concerts are held here.



Rich Baroque altar in the Cathedral of the Assumption

# Church of St John the Baptist

Sv. Ivan Krstitelj

Franjevački trg 8. Tel (042) 213 166. Open 8:30am-noon, 5:30-7pm daily.

The church was built in 1650 in the Baroque style on the site of a 13th-century church. The facade has a Renaissance doorway with a tympanum and



Bell tower of St. John the Bantist in Tomislay Square

two statues of St Francis of Assisi and St Anthony of Padua. The interior has eight side chapels and an ornate gilded pulpit from the late 17th century. The bell tower is 54 m (177 ft) high.

In front of the church is one of the copies of the Monument of Bishop Greaory of Nin by Ivan Meštrović. The adjacent pharmacy has many works of art, among them some allegorical frescoes by Ivan Ranger (see p210).

#### Hercer Palace Palača Horcor

Franjevački trg 6. Open 9am-5pm Tue-Fri 9am-1nm Sat & Sun Entomological Museum: Tel (042) 658 760. Open same opening times as the palace. 2

Built at the end of the 18th century (the founders' coat of arms is on the door), the palace has housed the well-organized

Entomological Section of the Civic Museum (Entomološki odiel Gradskog muzeia) since 1954. The museum was founded thanks to the entomologist Franjo Košćec (1882-1968), who, in 1959, donated his natural history collection to the city. From 1962 to 1980 his work was carried on by his daughter Ružica. a biologist. As well as thousands of insects, the museum also has a herbarium. From time to time temporary exhibitions on a variety of themes are organized.

### (†) Church of the Holy Trinity Sv. Troistvo

Kapucinski trg 7. Tel (042) 213 550. Open 9am-noon, 6-7pm Mon-Sat. Sun before and after Mass.

The church dates from the early 18th century and houses numerous Baroque paintings.

#### VISITORS' CHECKLIST

#### Practical Information

Map D1. 7 42.000. 1 Local: Ivana Padovca 3. (042) 210 987: Regional: Uska 4. (042) 210 096. Raroque evenings Varaždin (Sep-Oct): Gastrolov (Oct).

w tourism-varazdin.hr

### Transport

Frane Supila. (042) 210 444. Kolodvorska 17 (060) 333 555

furnishings by local masters. and an organ with figures of angels playing instruments.

The neighbouring monastery. from the same period, is famous for its library of parchments incunabula and manuscripts, and some of the oldest documents in ancient Croatian (kaikayski)

### Rational Theatre Narodno kazalište

Ulica Augusta Cesarca 1 Tel (042) 214 688.

Open for performances only.

Built by Hermann Helmer in 1873. this is one of the main cultural centres in the city. During the summer and autumn, theatregoers from all over Europe come to attend performances.

#### Varaždin Town Centre

- Castle and Civic Museum
- (2) Gallery of Old and Modern Masters
- 3 Tomislav Square
- (4) Cathedral of the Assumption
- (5) Church of St John the Baptist
- 6 Hercer Palace
- (7) Church of the Holy Trinity
- (8) National Theatre



0 metres 200 200 0 yards





Vineyards in the countryside around Čakovec

# ② Čakovec

Map D1. M 16,000. ( (040) 384 333. ( (040) 313 947. ( (040) 313 947. ( (040) 313 947. ( (040) 313 319. Regional: Rudera Boškovića 2, (040) 374 064. ( (040) 37

In the second half of the 13th century on a site once inhabited by Romans, Count Demetrius Chaky, a magistrate at the court of King Bela IV, built a tower here which was called Chaktornya. In the following century, the main defensive structure in Međimurie was built around the tower. In 1547 Emperor Ferdinand gave it to the Ban (governor) of Croatia, Nikola Zrinski (see p181), together with a large estate, as a reward for the victory against the Turks and to settle a debt. Nikola Zrinski died heroically

while fighting against the Ottomans in defending Siget and became a national hero On 29 May 1579, one of his successors, a member of the Zrinski family of Siget. quaranteed tax privileges to whoever went to live in the city that was developing around the fort. This date is considered the founding of the city and is celebrated with a festival Bastions and a most were added in this period as defence against cannon fire. Inside the walls, a four-storey palace was built around a square courtvard.

In 1671 Petar Zrinski led a plot to separate Croatia from the Kingdom of Hungary. The plot was discovered and Zrinski and his co-conspirator Fran Krsto Frankopan were beheaded on 30 April 1671. Čakovec then came under the direct rule of the Emperor.

The Renaissance Old Castle, of which only the first floor remains, and the Baroque New Castle with a rectangular plan, face each other inside the medieval walls. For a long time the Old Castle was used as a prison. It is now being restored and is to be used in future for cultural activities. The church has been reopened for worship.

Museum of Čakovec has on display exhibits of prehistoric material, many Roman finds, and ethnographic collections. There is also an exhibition dedicated to the local composer, J Slavenski (1896–1955), who was known for his love of the traditional music of the region.

Čakovec is the main administrative centre of the Medimurje, a frontier region which borders Slovenia and Hungary. The land in the western part of the region is hilly with broad valleys, and is renowned for its wines, while the fertile plains of the eastern part produce cereal crops.

# Međimurje Civic Museum

Trg Republike 5. **Tel** (040) 313 499. **Open** 8am–3pm Mon–Fri (Apr–Sep: from 6am); 10am–1pm Sat & Sun.



#### Environs

In the village of Šenkovec, 2 km (1 mile) from Čakovec, stands the Church of **St Helen** (Sv. Jelena). What little remains of its



Old and New Castles of Čakovec

original Gothic form has been integrated into an overall Baroque appearance. The church is all that survives of the monastery founded by the

Paulines in 1376 It has heen rehuilt at various times firstly after a Protestant revolt then because of a fire and finally after an earthquake

Inside the church are the tombstones of Fresco on the door of the the powerful 7rinski family, the lords of Čakovec: that of Nikola 7rinski and his wife Catherine Frankopan, and also that of Petar Zrinski

The church also contains a number of tombs of members of the Knežević family, who became the successors to the 7rinskis



One of the frescoes decorating the church of St Helen, Čakovec

17th century. At one time the palace was famous for its rich furnishings its art collections and for the fact that the Hungarian king, Matthias

> Corvinus was often a quest here

The Church of St Jerome (Sv Jerolim) stands on a hill at the edge of the village Restoration has uncovered the frescoes above the doorway and in the niches on the facade, which is

flanked by two harmonious bell towers and culminates in a curvilinear tymnanum

In the church are numerous trompe-l'œil paintings by the Tyrolean artist Ivan Ranger (see p210), depicting Angels. the Evangelists and the Life of St Jerome. There are also statues representing the fathers of the Church



church of St. Jerome.

Štrigova

Map D1. 7 1,200. 5 from Varaždin, 77 Trg Matije Gupca 14. (042) 722 233.

This small town lies at the foot of vine-covered hills. It was first mentioned in documents of 1353 as the site of a medieval fortress. At one time it was known for the large palace built by the Patačić counts on the site of their old castle. The palace is now in ruins as is that of the



Frescoed facade of the Church of St Jerome, Štrigova

Drašković counts which was situated in the centre of a large park.

In the late 19th century, Count Marko Bombelles created Opeka Park, 2 km (1 mile) south of Vinica. This large arboretum was at that time the only one of its kind in Croatia Here Bombelles planted exotic trees and plants from around the world, including the Americas. Japan Tibet and the Caucasus over an area of flat and hilly ground.

Next to this wonderful park, declared a protected nature reserve in 1961, a school of horticulture has been set up. This school has several glasshouses and a large garden of flowering plants.

Opeka Park Open at all times

# Strigova

Map D1. A 450. A from Čakovec. from Čakovec. i Štrigova 22a, (040) 851 325. w strigova.info

Numerous finds of Roman origin have been discovered here, leading historians to believe that this village was built on the site of the Roman city of Stridon, the birthplace of St. Jerome.

The counts of Štrigovčak lived here, but their castle was destroyed during a raid by the Turks. Nearby, the Bannfy counts also built a castle, which was transformed into a palace in the | Spring floral display in Opeka Park, near Vinica





Choir stalls in the Church of St Mary, frescoed by the artist Ivan Ranger

# 6 Lepoglava

Map D1, 🔼 8,500, 🗐 (042) 791 193. for Ivanec. Hrvatskih pavlina 7. (042) 494 317. All International Lace Festival (Sep). W lepoglava-info.hr

A pretty town on the Bednia river, nestled between the forested slopes of two mountain peaks, Lepoglava rose to prominence from 1400, when the Pauline order built a church and monastery here, which gradually became a prominent seat of learning and scholarship. By the mid-17th century the monastery had become one of Croatia's first universities; at around the same time the church, dedicated to St Mary (Sv. Marija), was enlarged and embellished. It is a Baroque Gothic building with a richly furnished interior, noted for an organ dating 1649, which still plays, and the magnificent series of frescoes by Ivan Ranger, Also of interest is the pulpit and the altar of St Anne by the Pauline monk and sculptor Aleksije Königer.

In 1854, after the dissolution of the Pauline order, Lepoglava's monastery entered a more notorious period of its history. It was converted into a prison. in which many major Croatian revolutionaries, dissidents and activists of the 20th century were incarcerated, including Josip Broz (Tito), Moša Pijade, Archbishop Alojzije Stepinac and Franjo Tuđman. However, at the start of the 21st century,

a modern penitentiary was built and the monastery buildings were returned to the church

The Pauline brotherhood may also have been responsible for instigating Lepoglava's other claim to fame: the making of exquisite and intricate lace a centuries-old tradition and

its centuries old Lace School. Along with the lace of Pag and of Hvar, it has been entered into

UNESCO's list of Intangible Cultural Heritage, Lepoglava also hosts an annual international lace festival in September.

### The Church of St Marv

Trg 1. hrvatskog sveučilišta 3. Tel (042) 792 566. Open by appt.

# 6 Trakošćan

Man D1 👼 for Trakošćan Trakošćan. (042) 796 281. W trakoscan hr

The pretty surroundings of the Castle of Trakošćan and its excellent state of conservation, make this one of the most visited tourist sights in Zagorie. The castle was built to quard the road

which descends from Ptui towards the valley of the River Sava The castle was listed in 1434 as one of the properties granted by

Sigismund of Austria to the Count of Celie It was used for

defence purposes until the end of Turkish rule. In 1568 it became the property of the Drašković counts.



Typical lace from

Lepoglava

# Ivan Ranger (Johannes Baptiste Ranger)

Born in Götzens, near Innsbruck in Austria, in 1700. Ivan Ranger joined the Pauline order at a very early age. Not much is known of his years

as an apprentice, but it is certain that he lived for a time in Italy, where he encountered the Baroque style in Venice, Rome, Bologna and Mantua. At the age of 30 he was invited to Lepoglava, then the headquarters of the order, to which he remained loval until his death in 1753. He also worked in nearby towns and in Slovenia (at the monastery of Olimje and the castle-monastery of Sveti Jernej in Rogatec). In line with Pauline principles, he created a school of fresco painters. With these artists he produced colourful fresco cycles which were full of expression (the trompe-l'œil paintings also reveal great technical skill). His themes were always religious, and he was much imitated.



Fresco painted by the Pauline monk Ivan Ranger



Castle of Trakošćan, now a museum

During the second half of the 19th century, it was transformed into a splendid Neo-Gothic residence by Jurai Drašković. He also added an artificial lake. a park and gardens while at the same time preserving some of the military aspects of the castle. It stands on a wooded hilltop and is surrounded by a high wall with a tower, which encircles the imposing palace.

All 32 of the rooms of the castle are now a museum where furniture armoury vestments and paintings, as well as a rare series of portraits of the Drašković family, are on display.

Castle and Museum Tel (042) 796 422. Open Apr-Oct: 9am-6pm daily; Nov-Mar: 9am-4pm daily. 🔊 🌠 🏂 🎦

# Krapina

Map D1. 🔼 4,500. 💂 Frana Galovića bb, (049) 328 028. A. Starčevića, (049) 315 018. Magistratska 28, (049) 371 330. M Week of music and Kajkaviana culture (Sep).

# w tzg-krapina.hr

This town is well known in the scientific field because of the remains of Krapina man, Homo krapinensis, who lived in the Palaeolithic age, that were found nearby. The Neanderthal skeleton, discovered in 1899 in a hillside cave, is now in the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb. The Museum of Krapina Neanderthal Men is one of the most modern

presentations and exhibits explore the life and culture of Neanderthal man

Kranina is first documented in 1193 as the site of a castle. now destroyed built to quard the river of the same name. After the danger of Turkish attack had passed. it was conceded to the Kealević counts and became an important administrative town

It also became a religious centre. In the mid-17th century, a Franciscan monastery and the Baroque Church of

St Catherine were built.

The sacristy and some of the monastery rooms are decorated with vivid frescoes by Ivan Ranger.

In one of the town squares is a monument to Liudevit Gai. born in Krapina in 1809, During the first half of the 19th century he was a prominent figure in the movement which promoted the revival of Croatian politics and culture

### Museum of Krapina Neanderthal Men

Šetalište V Sluge bb. **Tel** (049) 371 491. Open Mar & Oct: 9am-6pm Tue-Sun: Apr-Jun & Sep: 9am-7pm Tue-Sun: Jul & Aug: 9am-6pm Tue-Fri, 9am-7pm Sat & Sun; Nov-Feb: 9am-4pm Tue-Fri, 9am-5pm Sat & Sun, 🔊 🌠 by appt. 🗺

### Environs

Just northeast of Krapina is the sanctuary of the Madonna of Jerusalem in Trški Vrh. a magnificent example of Baroque art in

Croatia, Built in 1750-61, on a square plan, the facade has a bell tower with an onion dome. Inside is an arched portico with

> rounded corners and four chapels similar to the tower. The walls. vaults, ceilings and dome of the church are covered with a cycle of frescoes of hiblical subjects and scenes from

Marv's life by the Styrian artist, Anton Lerchinger, The ornate main altar

(with a statue of the Virgin brought from Jerusalem in 1669) is by sculptor Filip Jacob Straub of Graz, while the pulpit and the other three altars are the work of Anton Mersi



Bust of Liudevit

Gai, Krapina

museums in Croatia. Multimedia | Fresco in the Baroque Church of the Madonna of Jerusalem in Trški Vrh





# Pregrada

Map C1. 

↑ 1,700. 

↑ Trg Gospe

Kunagorske 3, (049) 377 050.

↑ Carnival (Feb), Branje grožďa,

grape harvest (Sep). 

▼ pregrada.hr

The village church has ancient origins but now presents a 19th-century appearance, made distinctive by the façade flanked by two pointed bell towers. Inside, as well as the tombs of members of the Keglević and Gorup families, there is also a very large organ, which was at one time in Zagreb Cathedral.

On the site of a medieval castle, in the Hrvatsko Zagorje woods along the Wine Road, stands **Gorica Castle**, once owned by the Keglević family and the feudal manor of the area. Two round towers frame the structure of the elaborate façade. Other buildings behind the towers are now used as a winery.

#### **Environs**

On a vineyard-covered hill 7 km (4 miles) west of Pregrada, in **Vinagora**, stands an unusual sanctuary of ancient origins. This place of worship became the parish church in 1780. The church of St Mary of the Visitation (Sv. Marija od Pohoda) contains some Gothic statues and rich furnishings. The church is surrounded by walls which encircle the hill. Two round towers quard the



Inside the Church of St Mary of the Visitation, Vinagora

sanctuary entrance, which also once had a drawbridge. These towers are now used as chapels.

# Veliki Tabor

Map C1. ☐ from Krapina or Zagreb for Desinić. ☐ Košnički Hum 1, Desinić, (049) 374 970. ☐ Knights tournament (Sep). ☐ Wellikitahor hr

One of the most famous and best-preserved castles in Croatia, Veliki Tabor stands on a bare hilltop, making it visible from a great distance. It was royal property in the 14th century at the time of King Matthias Corvinus I (the

fact that it was royal property justified its imposing appearance). It was granted to the family of the Ratkaj counts, who in the 16th century transformed it into a

Walls with four semicircular towers encircle the main body of the castle, which is built on a pentagonal ground-plan. Two floors with porticoes face the central courtyard. The bastions (no longer extant) made Veliki Tabor a fortress to be feared. The castle is now a museum.

#### Castle

Košnički Hum 1, Desinić. **Tel** (049) 374 970. **Open** Apr-Sep: 9am-5pm Tue-Fri, 9am-7pm Sat & Sun; Mar & Oct: 9am-4pm Tue-Fri, 9am-5pm Sat & Sun; Nov-Feb: 9am-4pm Tue-Sun.

#### **Environs**

Miljana, just to the southwest of Veliki Tabor, is home to one of the most picturesque Baroque castles in Croatia. Construction began in the 17th century but was not completed until the mid-19th century. This time span resulted in a variety of styles; there are striking 18th-century Rococo frescoes in some rooms, and some delightful artworks.

# Kumrovec

Map C1. [↑ 300. ☐ (049) 553 129. ☐ from Zagreb. ☐ Ulica Josipa Broza 12, (049) 553 728. ☐ Marriage of Zagorje (Sep). ☑ kumrovec.hr

This was the birthplace of Marshal Tito, born Josip Broz in 1892. His house, which dates from 1860, was turned into a museum in 1953. On display are the furniture and household goods which belonged to his family.

In the square in front of the house is a monument to Tito, the work of Antun Augustinčić in 1948. Along with other village houses, Tito's birthplace is now part of a folk museum, the

Ethnological Museum – Staro Selo, which means "old village". The preserved thatched houses are furnished with utensils and household goods of the time.



Castle of Veliki Tabor, one of the best-preserved castles in Croatia



Birthplace of Marshal Tito, part of the Staro Selo museum in Kumrovec

Reconstructed workshops have been set up to demonstrate crafts such as hemp- and flax-weaving.

# IIII Ethnological Museum -Staro Selo

Kumrovec bh Tel (049) 225 830 Open Apr-Sep: 9am-7pm daily: Mar & Oct: 9am-4pm Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm Sat & Sun: Nov-Feb: 9am-4pm daily. 2

# Maniec

Map C1, 15 600, 15 (049) 550404. from Zagreb, Krapina, Zabok. Tra A Mihanovića 2, (049) 551 002. Thanksgiving to Autumn (Oct).

klanjec.hr

Antun Augustinčić (1900-79) is one of the most important Croatian sculptors of the 20th century, and his works can be seen around the world. He was born here, and the Antun Augustinčić Gallery displays his work.

Also of interest are the Franciscan monastery and the annexed church of St Marv. both built in the 17th century by the powerful Erdödy family, whose tombs lie here. Tours can be arranged by the tourist office.

In the main square is a monument by Robert Frangeš-Mihanović, dedicated to the poet Antun Mihanović. who wrote the Croatian national anthem.

Another memorial dedicated to Antun Mihanović is the 9-m (29-ft) memorial stone which stands in Zelenjak, 3 km (2 miles) north of Klanjec, in the direction of Kumrovec.

# IIII Antun Augustinčić Gallery

Trg A Mihanovića 10. **Tel** (049) 550 343. Open Apr-Sep: 9am-5pm daily: Oct-Mar: 9am-3pm Tue-Sun.

# Bedekovčina

Map D1. 🔼 3,500. 💂 Trg A Starčevića 12. (049) 213 106. 👼 from Zagreb. 🚺 Regional: Magistratska 3, Krapina, (049) 233 653. Wine fair (Jun).

This town is home to a particularly attractive castle and palace, one of many buildings erected over the ruins of ancient castles in

> the Zagorje hills. The majority of these were destroyed during the wars against the Turks.

> > This particular castle was built in the early 18th century. and now houses public offices.

The castle is built on a quadrangular plan, on two levels and with a sloping

roof Coats of arms are emblazoned above the two entrance doors.

Statue of Antun

Mihanović, Klaniec

# Marija Bistrica

Map D1 M 1 000 🖨 Zlatar Bistrica 5 km (3 miles). 👼 from Zagreb. 7 Zagrebačka bb. (049) 468 380 Summer in Marija Bistrica (Jun-Aug). w tz-marija-bistrica.hr

This small village lying on the northern side of the Medvednica mountain is home to the Sanctuary of St Mary of **Bistrica** (Maike Božie Bistričke) one of the best-known pilgrimage sites in Croatia. There has been a church on this site since 1334. In the mid-16th century, when a Turkish invasion seemed imminent a wooden statue of the Black Madonna with Child was hidden in the church Some decades later, it was miraculously rediscovered. to great joy and emotion. It still inspires tremendous devotion today.

The church has been enlarged several times and was the first to be declared a Sanctuary of Croatia by Parliament (1715). It was rebuilt in 1883 by the architect Hermann Bollé. He adopted an eclectic approach combining Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque styles. The church also has a large frescoed portico.

The sanctuary possesses a rich store of beautiful religious objects: gold and silver pieces, furnishings and sacred vestments adorned with gold embroidery. Some objects are now on exhibit in the Diocesan Museum in Zagreb.

# T Sanctuary of St Mary of the Snows

Tra pape Ivana Pavla II 32. Tel (049) 469 156. Open by appt.



Sanctuary of St Mary of the Snows in Marija Bistrica, a place of pilgrimage

# © Tour of the Thermal Spas

Between Varaždin and Zagreb are six thermal spas (toplice), dating from different eras. Set in a pleasant hilly landscape of vineyards and woods, the spas are popular with Croatians and visitors from nearby European countries. As well as being attracted by the wellequipped thermal spas, visitors are also drawn by the cities and towns nearby. In addition there are numerous castles, sanctuaries, churches and museums, making this a very pleasant area to stay in.



Decorative detail from the Roman baths, Varaždinske Toplice

# (4) Krapinske Toplice

This thermal spa was built in the second half of the 19th century near a hot water spring rich in calcium, magnesium and carbonate. The hospital treats rheumatic cardiovascular and neurological illnesses with bathing in its three indoor pools (the hotel also has outdoor pools and a whirlpool) and mud treatments



(5) Sutinske Toplice Located 8 km (5 miles) northwest of 7 latar at an altitude of 170 m (557 ft) this site has been famous since the 13th century for its curative waters. which are slightly radioactive and rich in minerals, particularly calcium and magnesium. Mud baths are particularly

effective for the treatment of a variety

Belec

Zlatar Bistrica

of ailments. Outdoor pools only.



(1) Terme Jezerčica This thermal spa is located in Danja Stubica. There is a hotel (with thermal water conducted to every bathroom), a wellness spa and beauty centre, a sauna, fitness programmes, massage, face and body treatments and several pools.



# Kev

Tour route Motorway

Other roads

# (3) Terme Tuheli

This spa town is 40 km (25 miles) from Zagreb. At the hotel with its eight pools, rheumatic, respiratory, urological and gynaecological illnesses are treated.



# ② Stubičke Toplice

This spa is located at the foot of Mount Medvednica, 3 km (2 miles) from Donja Stubica. The spa dates from 1776. There is a hospital here that specializes in the treatment of degenerative diseases of the joints and spine. The hot spa waters emerge at 69°C (156°F).

# Tips for Drivers

Length of tour: 100 km (62 miles)

Stops: Toplice Hotel, A Mihanovića 2 Kraninske T (049) 202 202: Hotel Minerva Tra slobode 1. Varaždinske T. (042) 630 534

Stubičke T. V Šipeka 24. (049) 282 727: Krapinske T. Zagrebačka 4. (049) 232 106: Terme Tuheli, Gaieva 4, (049) 203 000: Sutinske T. (049) 466 627: Varaždinske T (042) 633 133



# Varaždinske Toplice

The spa resort in Varaždinske Toplice is one of the oldest in Croatia. The first baths were set up by the Romans at the end of the 18th century and are still in use. The first public spa was opened to the public in 1820. The thermal waters are used to treat rheumatic and orthopaedic conditions.





Decorated interior of the church of St Mary of the Snows, Belec

# **®** Relec

Map D1. A 500. From Zabok. Regional: D G Krambergera 1, Krapina. (049) 233 653.

Among the hills of Zagorie is the village of Belec, much loved by art historians, because on its outskirts is the small Church of St George (Sv. Juria), one of the few Romanesque buildings preserved in inland Croatia. The hell tower takes up nearly all of the facade (it resembles a defensive tower rather than a campanile). On the right is a small portico with two thin columns. This leads to the interior, where there is an ornate Gothic altar and interesting frescoes dating from the year of its construction.

Lower down the hillside is the Church of St Mary of the Snows (Sv. Marija Sniežna), constructed by the Kealević family in 1674. This church is considered a masterpiece of Croatian Baroque, because of its sumptuously decorated and ornamented interior. The monk and artist Ivan Ranger (see p210) painted some of his trompe-l'œil masterpieces here, including Scenes from the Old Testament and Episodes of the Virgin Mary's Life. The church also has a magnificent main altar, surrounded by cherubs and saints.

# The Church of St Mary of the Snows Tel (049) 460 040. Open by appt.

# Waraždinske **Toplice**

Map D1, A 2.000, A from Zagreb and Novi Marof. - from Zagreb. Tra slobode 16, (042) 633 133. w toplice-vz.hr

The waters that gush from a sulphurous spring at the foot of the hill south of Varaždin were known to the Jasi, an Illyrian tribe in the 3rd century BC The town was known as Aquae Jasae by the Romans, and the spa rapidly developed, as shown by the numerous archaeological finds discovered here. The baths were used until the area was invaded by the Goths, Later, a landslide buried the baths in mud and for centuries they were forgotten.

In the 12th century, under the rule of the bishop of Zagreb, a village was founded with the name of Toplissa and the inhabitants began to use the hot water from the spring once more. During the construction of the presentday resort, the Roman town was rediscovered.

Varaždinske Toplice also boasts a medieval district which includes a castle, part of which houses a History Museum. Inside a small fortress is the parish church with an organ from 1766 and two carved altars made by Francesco Robba.

In a nearby park is Seoska Kuća, a 19th-century rural house with furniture and objects from the same era.



Sanctuary dedicated to the Trinity, Ludbreg

# **©** Ludbreg

Map D1. M 3,800. from Zagreb via Koprivnica or Varaždin. from Zagreb. Trg sv. Trojstva 14, (042) 810 690. Celebration of Miraculous Blood (1st Sun in Sep). Visitludbrea.hr

Many traces from the Roman era, such as walls and baths, have been found in this area. In researching these finds, some historians have identified Ludbreg as being the Roman site of Jovia.

The town later became one of the first bishop's sees in inland Croatia. In 1411, during a mass, a priest saw the wine in the chalice turn to blood and the town chapel where this miracle took place became a destination for pilgrims. In 1513 Pope Leo X declared Ludbreg the only Sanctuary of the Trinity (Sv. Trojstvo) in Croatia.

The church, originally Gothic, was altered in 1829, and now features a Baroque altar and frescoes by M Rački (1937). The portico is typical of churches of pilgrimage and dates from 1779.

In 1739, Parliament voted to build a large chapel dedicated to the Precious Blood of Christ here, in order to preserve the miraculous chalice in an appropriate place. The chapel was not finally consecrated until 1994.

A manor house in Baroque and Classical style, built by the Battahyany family in 1745, today houses workshops belonging to the Croatian Restoration Institute.

# Koprivnica

Map D1. M 25,000. N Kolodvorska 31, (060) 305 040. Zagrebačka ulica, (048) 621 282. Local: Trg bana Jelačića 7, (048) 621 433; Regional: Nemčićeva 5, (048) 624 408. № Podravski motivi, Naive art exhibition (first week of Jul); Renaissance Festival (last weekend in Aug). N koprivnicatourism.com

Koprivnica (originally known as Kukaproncza), was founded by the powerful Ernust family, and was a key trading centre for the Podravina area as well as a royal city from 1356. It was burned down by the Turks in the 16th century, destroying one of Croatia's first free towns.

Slowly rebuilt in the 17th century, the town took on a Baroque appearance with a wide avenue flanked by the main buildings. At one end stands the 19th-century County Hall of Koprivnica and Križevci. There are many Serbian immigrants here, hence the Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit (Sveti Duh), dating from the late 18th century.

A significant event for the city was the establishment in 1685 of a **Franciscan Monastery** and the church of St Anthony of Padua. The monastery was a source of culture and learning for the whole region and it has resumed this role in recent times.

Nearby is the **Civic Museum** (Gradski muzej) with archaeological, historical and cultural collections, and the **Koprivnica Gallery** with a collection of Naive works linked to the Hlebine School (*see p25*). Next door, in a former old brewery, is the beer hall Kraluš (*see p249*), much loved by the locals.

# **IIII** Civic Museum

Trg Leandera Brozovića 1. **Tel** (048) 622 307. **Open** 8am–3pm, 6–9pm Mon–Fri; 10am–1pm Sat.

M Koprivnica Gallery
Zrinski trg 9/1. Tel (048) 622 564.
Open 8am–3pm & 6–9pm Tue–Fri,
10am–1pm Sat & Sun.

#### **Environs**

Hlebine, 13 km (8 miles) east of Koprivnica, owes its fame to the peasant painters fostered by the artist Krsto Hegedušić. In the 1930s this group founded the so-called Hlebine School (see p25) of Naive art: the core of a trend in painting which represented the landscape and people of this region in a simple and original way. Their work is exhibited in both the Hlebine Gallery and the Koprivnica Gallery.

# IIII Hlebine Gallery

Trg Ivana Generalića 15. **Tel** (048) 836 075. **Open** 10am–4pm
Tue–Fri, 10am–2pm Sat & Sun.



A work of Naive art of the Hlebine School in the Koprivnica Gallery



The medieval castle in Đurdevac, today housing a gallery

# Durđevac

Map E1. M 6,500. Kolodvorska 21. (048) 813 089. (048) 812 002. Stiepana Radića 1. (048) 812 046. Durđevo, City Day (23 Apr): Legend of the Picoki, culture and folklore show (last week of Jun). w visitdiurdievac.hr

Although the town's name derives from an ancient religious building dedicated to St George (Sv. Jurai), the town is now known for the Castle (Stari grad), whose ancient name is mentioned as Wasserburg meaning castle on the water in the Middle Ages the structure was much larger (excavations reveal a rectangular plan with a drawbridge and tower). All that remains now is a roughly octagonal building with an internal courtvard. A gallery occupies the upper floor.

# Bjelovar

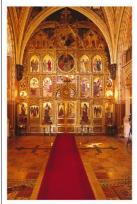
Map D1. 🔼 28,000. 💂 Masarykova ulica, (043) 241 263. Amasarykova ulica, (043) 241 269. 1 Local: Trg Eugena Kvaternika 2, (043) 243 944; Regional: Dr. Ante Starčevića 8. (043) 221 928. M Terezijana, cultural display (Jun). w turizam-bilogorabjelovar. com.hr

In the Middle Ages this was a fort called Wellowar. It acquired greater status in 1756, when Maria Theresa of Austria built a fort here. It became a military town, and was built on an octagonal layout, centred around two intersecting roads. These are now home to the Cathedral of St Theresa, schools, the Orthodox church of the Holy

Trinity and the barracks. The town's Civic Museum (Gradski muzei) has an extensive and varied collection

# (ivic Museum

Tra Fugena Kvaternika 1 Tel (043) 244 207 Open 10am=7pm Tue-Fri 10am-2nm Sat & Sun



The iconostasis in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Križevci

# 

Map D1, 🔼 12.000, 💂 (048) 716 193. Trg. I.J. Strossmavera 5, (048) 681 199. Križevačko veliko spravišče. cultural and gastronomic event (mid-Jun). w tz-krizevci.hr

References to this town are found in acts from the early 12th century. In 1252 it was declared a royal free town, and at various times it was chosen as the meeting place for the Croatian parliament. During a meeting in 1397 certain nobles considered traitors to King Sigismund were massacred. Of these, one was the Prince palatine, Stjepan Lacković.

The town was later fortified but after Turkish rule, only the towers' foundations and pieces of the wall remained. The town prospered with the arrival of the railway in 1871

The oldest building is the medieval Church of the Holy Cross (Sv. Križ), but only the side doorway dates from this period. The church was restructured in the Baroque style in the second half of the 18th century. The altar of the Holy Cross was sculpted by Francesco Robba in 1756 for the cathedral in Zagreb.

The Greek Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity (Sv. Troistyo) has an iconostasis frescoes by Celestin Medović and Ivan Tišov from the early 19th century and a magnificent main altar It was restored during the 19th century according to the drawings of the architect Herman Bollé.

The attached monastery became the Bishop's Palace (Biskupski dvor). It houses paintings, icons, manuscripts and holy objects. The Civic Museum (Gradski muzei) has interesting archaeological and art collections

IIII Church of the Holy Cross Ivana Dijankovečkog 1. Tel (048) 711 711. Open by appt.

Bishop's Palace Tel (048) 712 171. Open by appt.

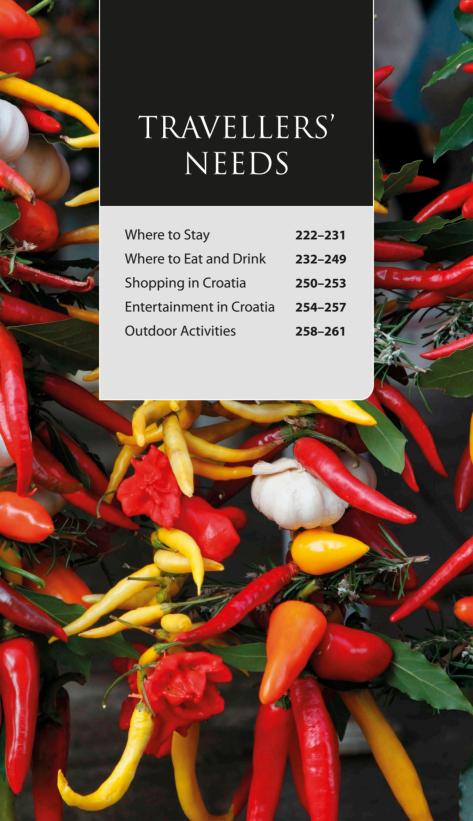
IIII Civic Museum

Sermageova 2. **Tel** (048) 711 210. Open 10am-1pm Mon-Fri or by appt. 🔊 🌠



Altar by Francesco Robba in the church of the Holy Cross, Križevci





# WHERE TO STAY

Croatia is one of the boom destinations of Furonean tourism and accommodation facilities are going through a dynamic period of expansion and improvement. This means that there is a great deal of choice available to visitors. There are plenty of modern hotels, apartments and holiday villages, especially along the coast, Rooms and apartments rented privately by their owners represent a particularly inexpensive option. The number of B&Bs and boutique

backpacker hostels is also on the rise. and there are plenty of well-equipped. idyllically situated campsites along the coast. Numerous tour operators and travel agencies offer package holidays to different resorts in Croatia, but it is not difficult to make your own travel arrangements Accommodation is best booked in advance. and planning ahead is a good idea if you are intending to visit in the peak summer months of June, July and August.



"Birdcage" balcony, Lešić-Dimitri Palace hotel, Korčula (see p229)

### Hotels

Tourism first boomed in Croatia in the 1970s and 1980s and most of the hotels, particularly those in the resorts along the coast, date from this period. Facilities are generally up to modern standards although decor and furnishings can seem rather anonymous, Recent vears have seen many hotels renovated and upgraded, providing a growing stock of 4- and 5-star accommodation.

Grand hotels erected in the late 19th and early 20th century can be found in Zagreb, the capital, and in Opatija, in the Kvarner gulf, Opatija became a popular seaside resort at the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, when the Habsburg aristocracy were regular visitors, and it still has several hotels dating from this time. They offer a somewhat faded elegance not found in the more modern multistorey buildings along the coast. Both Zagreb and Dubrovnik also have a number

of larger luxury hotels, including several belonging to well-known international hotel chains. There are also a growing number of boutique and design hotels in fashionable destinations such as Dubrovnik, Split and Hvar. The facilities and services offered by these hotels are of a very high standard, which is reflected in the prices.

# Prices

All accommodation prices in Croatia are seasonal with the cheapest rates occurring in winter and the most expensive coinciding with the high summer season which used to mean July and August, but which is now spreading to June and September as well.

During the high season accommodation in Croatia can be just as expensive as (if not more than) anywhere else in the Mediterranean especially in fashionable destinations such as Dubrovnik. Hvar and Split, Bargains might be found in the shoulder seasons of April, May and October: and winter is in general a more inexpensive time to travel – although be aware that many hotels situated on the coast close their doors for at least a few months out of season



Fresh\* Sheets Kathedral Dubrovnik, overlooking a pretty square in Dubrovnik (see p228)



Hotel Lone in Rovini, Istria, a five-star option outside the major cities (see p227)

# Hotel Grading

Croatia has adopted the standard star system for categorizing hotels common in other European countries. which ranges from one star awarded to the simplest sort of accommodation, to five stars for a luxury hotel.

The five-star category indicates hotels offering a high standard and a wide range of services and facilities. usually including spa and fitness facilities, a swimming pool and at least one gourmet restaurant. There are not very many five-star hotels in Croatia, and most of them are in Dubrovnik and Zagreb.

Four-star hotels offer facilities and services similar to those in the five-star category, but the furnishings are less luxurious and more standardized and there are fewer facilities.

Most of the hotels in Croatia fall within the three-star category, which indicates hotels offering a good standard of comfort. Two-star hotels are generally cheaper and more spartan in their furnishings and offer fewer services.

It is common practice in resort areas for hotels to offer half-board (polupansion), with the price including bed and breakfast as well as another meal (usually an evening meal). Prices for half-board can be very reasonable; often not much more than you would

hotel restaurant food tends often to be based on rather standardized "international" cooking, and may be lacking in local character.

# **Private Rooms** and Apartments

A good-value alternative to staving in a hotel while in Croatia is to look for accommodation in privately rented rooms (privatne sobe) or apartments (apartmani).

Private rooms are usually doubles (single travellers may be expected to pay the full double price), and come in all shapes and sizes – the most expensive ones will have en-suite bathrooms, but many will not. Apartments come in all sizes too, from 2-person studios to 6-person family flats, and

represent an inexpensive alternative to hotel accommodation for those travelling as a family or as a group. Apartments usually have a well-equipped kitchen for those who want to selfcater and there is usually a local market or food shop nearby.

Private rooms and apartments are frequently rented out privately by their owners via international booking sites like Booking or Airbnb. They can also be booked through the various tourist agencies which can be found in all the tourist resorts. A tourist tax and commission are charged and in summer landlords may require stays of a minimum of four nights.

Landladies and landlords often congregate at ferry terminals and bus stations to offer rooms to arriving tourists. While this is a reasonably safe way to secure a room, it is essential to check the location and price before committing yourself in any way.

Otherwise you can seek out accommodation yourself in the areas you would like to stay in by looking out for signs reading sobe (Croatian for 'rooms'). 7immer in German or camere in Italian, hanging outside the door. It is a good idea to begin looking fairly early in the day. If you find somewhere you like. you can ask to be shown the room and, if you are happy with what you see, you can arrange the terms and the



pay for just the room. However, Karmen's self-contained apartments within a historic residence, Dubrovnik (see p.228)





The iconic Esplanade Zagreb Hotel (see p231)

price of your stay. It may even be possible to negotiate the price especially out of season Private rooms rarely come with breakfast, although you can always ask if it is available - an increasing number of renters are beginning to provide it.

# **B&Bs and Pensions**

The concept of the bed-andbreakfast is relatively new in Croatia but there are an increasing number of them in Zagreb on the coast and in national park areas where rural tourism is on the increase Usually these offer simply furnished rooms in family houses, although some B&Bs are swish affairs, almost on the level of boutique hotels. Pensions (pansion) are small family-run hotels that offer breakfast, and possibly halfor full board as well.

# Camp Sites

There are plenty of camp sites in Croatia, ranging from small, family-run sites with a few pitches under the olive trees to large camps with facilities such as sports grounds, restaurants and shops. Many Croatian camp sites are located in woods by the sea, so you can keep cool under shady trees on summer days. While there is a wide choice of sites on the Adriatic coast and islands, there are far fewer camp sites inland. Kamping Udruženje Hrvatske (the Croatian Camping Union) has useful directories on its website. All camp sites are open in the summer months of June, July. August and until the middle of September However it is best to check with the camparound directly if you are planning on going during May or late September, as the opening periods can vary from year to year.

Some of the loveliest camp sites, situated as they are in hidden-away spots, are those marked "FKK" (see p266), which are for naturists only.

Camping outside designated areas is prohibited in Croatia so do not be tempted to stop overnight in the woods or forests, on the beaches or in any areas not specifically reserved for campers.

# Hostels

There are a growing number of backpacker hostels in Croatia, most of which offer cheap. simple dorm accommodation in fun, informal surroundings. A bed in a hostels can be booked via the hostel's own website or on specialist websites such as Hostelworld. Many hostels offer double rooms, triples and guads as well as dorms, and these are increasingly popular with couples and families who enjoy the social aspects of backpacker culture but who want their own room. Some hostels have invested a lot of money in contemporary design and comforts, and are similar in style to small boutique hotels. Breakfast is available at some but not all. Croatian hostels check when booking.

# Bookings

The prevalence of Internet booking sites means that it is nowadays fairly easy to organize hotel reservations in Croatia vourself However places fill up quickly from June through to September, so you are advised to book well in advance in order to be sure of getting the accommodation vou want

The Croatian National Tourist Board (see n267) can supply information on accommodation ahead of your trip. Once you are in Croatia. local tourist offices (there is one in every town) will either help you find a room or direct you to an accommodation agency that can sort out your needs.

# Disabled Travellers

Care for the disabled in Croatia is good, for the grim reason that the numbers of disabled people has risen here as a result of the 1991–95 war. However. despite renewed sympathy and consideration it is taking time to improve disabled access to buildings such as hotels and restaurants. Many hotels can be unsuitable for persons with restricted mobility.

As a general rule, hotels of four stars or above will have facilities for the disabled: cheaper places will probably not. For further information, contact Hrvatski Savez Udruga Tielesnih Invalida. the Association of Disabled Organizations of Croatia (see p267) or RADAR in the UK.

# Lighthouses

A delightful and unusual accommodation option in Croatia is a stay in one of the lighthouses which stand on isolated points along the coast, Lighthouses, which usually contain one or two apartments, are often situated on uninhabited islets, and will suit those who require solitude, unspoilt nature and unimpeded sea views. Several agencies deal with lighthouse accommodation;

they will supply you with boat transfer and provisions for the duration of your stay For more information and bookings, contact Lighthouses

### of Croatia or Atlas.

Of the more famous lighthouses. Savudrija is 9 km (5 miles) from Umag, and is the oldest lighthouse in the Adriatic, built in an ideal spot for windsurfers

# Sveti Ivan na nučini is situated on an island which is part of the archipelago off Rovini, which is 3.5 km (2 miles). away. It is ideal for those who

love fishing or diving. The **Porer** lighthouse, on the island of the same name is 20 km (12 miles) from Pula It offers truly spectacular views and is in a particularly isolated position, Taier, situated 28 km (17 miles) south of Zadar, was built in 1876. It comprises a stone building and an iron tower and offers panoramic views of Kornati Islands. Veli Rat stands among pine trees on the northwestern promontory on the island of Duai Otok, 35 km (22 miles) from 7adar, while at the entrance to the port of Makarska, near one of the most beautiful beaches in the Adriatic, stands

Pločica is situated on the island of the same name. which lies between the islands of Hvar and Korčula and the Pelješac peninsula.

the Sveti Petar lighthouse.



View from the Hotel Mozart, Opatija, chosen for its historic ambience (see p227)

The lighthouse of **Sušac** was built in 1878 on the island of the same name 40 km (25 miles) from Hyar It stands 100 m (328 ft) above sea level and offers a wonderful view of the open sea. It is possible to scuba dive near the rocks at the southern end of the island

The lighthouse of Palagruža is situated 68 km (42 miles) from Split, between the Italian and Croatian coasts, while on the island of Lastovo, 80 km. (50 miles) from Split is the **Struga** lighthouse, dating from 1839. This is a great location for those who love fishing.

The **Sveti Andrija** lighthouse stands on the island of the same name and is 10 km (6 miles) from Dubrovnik, Finally, there is **Prišniak** lighthouse on the island of Murter, surrounded by a thick pine wood.



Modern and minimalist, but set in a Roman palace: the Vestibul Palace, Split (see p230)

# Recommended Hotels

The hotels listed on the following pages have been chosen for a wide range of reasons and criteria. All are representative of their context he that bustling Split, fairy-tale Dubrovnik, the beach resorts of the Adriatic coast or the quaint ports of the Dalmatian islands. Fach has earned a reputation for hospitality and charm

The listings cover all kinds of accommodation, from simple farmhouses to spawling resorts, family B&Bs to contemporary design hotels and luxurious palaces. A warm welcome earns plenty of points, as do little extras like coffee- and teamaking facilities, and allowing guests use of the kitchen.

The DK Choice label means the hotel is in some way outstanding. It may be in beautiful surroundings, offer a spectacular outlook, occupy a landmark building, provide outstanding service, radiate romance or be particularly charming, have a great spa, or a noteworthy sustainable outlook. Whatever the reason it is a guarantee of an especially memorable stay.

# DIRECTORY

# **Internet Booking Sites**

### Airbnb

w airbnb.com

# **Booking**

w booking.com

# Hostelworld

w hostelworld.com

# **Camping Websites**

Kamping Udruženje Hrvatske (Croatian **Camping Union)** 

w camping.hr

# Lighthouses

### Atlas

w atlas.hr

# **Lighthouses of Croatia**

w lighthouses-croatia.com

# Where to Stay

# Istria and the Kvarner Area

BUZET: Hotel Vela Vrata Routique Road Map B2 Šetalište Vladimira Gortana 7

Tel (052) 494 750 w velavrata.net

This lovely hotel at the gates of Buzet's hilltop Old Town has snug rooms and modern fittings. Closed Ian & Feh

BIIZET: Kotli Historic Road Man B2 Kotli Tel (098) 228 432

w istra-kotli.com

This street of stone houses in the village of Kotli, a protected cultural heritage complex 13 km (8 miles) from Buzet, have been converted into atmospheric family-sized apartments with good facilities.

CRES: Kimen Resort Road Map B3 Melin 1/16

Tel (051) 573 305

w hotel-kimen.com

A large but welcoming hotel, Kimen has lots of facilities and live music nightly. Closed Nov-Mar.

#### CRIKVENICA: Hotel Kaštel Road Map B2 Resort

Frankopanska 22

Tel (051) 241 044

w jadran-crikvenica.hr

Stay in simple rooms at this former 14th-century monastery, right by the river and close to the beach.

KRK: Valamar Korali Resort Road Map B3

V Tomašića hh

Tel (052) 465 120 w valamar.com/hr/hoteli-krk

Comfortable rooms and plenty of on-site facilities are offered at this large hotel, close to a beautiful bay.

KRK: Marina **Boutique** Road Map B3 Obala hrvatske mornarice 8

Tel (051) 221 128

w hotelmarina.hr

Set on the pretty harbourfront, this charming, well-run hotel has a café-restaurant terrace that's perfect for people-watching.

LOŠINJ: Apoksiomen **Boutique** Road Map B3

Riva lošiniskih kapetana 1 Tel (051) 520 820

w apoksiomen.com

An understated sense of style and attention to detail can be seen at this delightful hotel on the harbourfront

# DK Choice

LOŠINIE

Vitality Hotel Punta Road Map B3

Šestavine 17. Veli Lošini

Tel (051) 662 000

w losini-hotels.com

Built on rocks overlooking the sea, and backed by fragrant pines, this is a well-equipped and soothing resort hotel. The fishing harbour of Veli Lošini lies 5 minutes' walk in one direction: the resort town of Mali Lošini is 20 minutes away in the other. Punta's other main attribute is the on-site spa centre, which offers a pool. massage facilities and a variety of beauty treatments and exercise programmes.

# LOŠINI

**Wellness Hotel Aurora** Road Map B3 Recort

Sunčana uvala 4. Mali Lošini Tel (051) 667 200

w losini-hotels.com

This large, well-organized beachfront hotel has a range of facilities and beauty treatments.

ത്രത്രത

LOŠINJ: Bellevue Luxurv Road Map B3

Čikat 9. Mali Lošini Tel (051) 231 268

w losini-hotels.com

Offering excellent standards of service, Bellevue is a superbly equipped five-star hotel. Located within close proximity to the beaches of Čikat Bay.



Large and modern, with plenty of facilities: Wellness Hotel Aurora, Lošini

# Price Guide

Prices are based on one night's stay in high season for a standard double room linclusive of service charges and taxes

un to 800 kuna (Ki)(Ki) 800\_1300 kupa (M) (M) (M) over 1300 kupa

I OVRAN: Bristol Road Man R2 Historic

Šetalište maršala Tita 27 Tel (051) 710 444

w remisens com

Bristol is attractive late 19thcentury wedding-cake of a building on the promenade and has high-ceilinged rooms.

MOTOVUN: Hotel Kaštel Boutique Road Map A2 Tra Andrea Antico 7

Tel (052) 681 607

w hotel-kastel-motovun.hr

Offering a warren of cosy rooms. this restored 17th-century town house is set in the heart of a heautiful hill-town

ODATIIA. Palace-Rellevue Historic Road Map B2

Maršala Tita 144 Tel (051) 710 444

w remisens.com

This hotel's two impressive 19th-century buildings stand next to the main beach. The rooms are simple but the social areas - all marble columns and chandeliers - are wonderful.

OPATI IA: Galeh Historic Road Map B2 Maršala Tita 160

Tel (051) 271 177

w hotel-galeb.hr

A lovely little hotel in the centre of town. Galeb houses clean. good-sized rooms with sea views. Closed Nov-Apr.

OPATIJA: Villa Ariston (Kn) (Kn) **Boutique** Road Map B2

Maršala Tita 179 Tel (051) 271 379

w villa-ariston.hr

Grand in architecture and cosy in atmosphere, this seaside villa is a relaxing upscale choice.

OPATIJA: Hotel Milenij Lugury

(m) (m) Road Map B2

Maršala Tita 109 Tel (051) 278 007

w milenijhoteli.com

Set in impressive sea-front buildings, this hotel has a lovely ground-floor café and offers spa facilities.



Harbour views Hotel Marina Krk

#### (M) (M) (M) OPATIJA: Hotel Mozart Road Map B2 Luxury

Maršala Tita 138 Tel (051) 718 260

M hotel-mozart.hr

Beautifully restored, this 19thcentury building features replica period furnishings.

#### PLITVICE: Plitvice (Kn) (Kn) Road Map C3 Pacart

Plitvička iezera Tel (053) 751 200

w np-plitvicka-jezera.hr

his smart and comfortable hotel is set in the Plitvice National Park. and has a range of on-site facilities.

#### POREČ: Laguna Parentium @@@ Resort Road Map A2

7elena I aauna

Tel (052) 411 500

W lagunaporec.com

Situated on its own peninsula amid shady pines, this large hotel, oriented towards adults, has a wealth of spa. sport and relaxation options.

# POREČ:

Valamar Club Tamaris ത്രത്രത Road Map A2 Resort

l anterna 6

Tel (052) 401 000

w valamar.com

A self-contained complex, 10 km (6 miles) out of Poreč, with some lovely pebble beaches.

#### PIJLA: Hotel Riviera Historic Road Map A3

Splitska 1

Tel (052) 211 166

w arenaturist.com

A glorious 19th-century building that has been little altered inside - the high-ceilinged rooms are simple and inexpensive.

### **PULA: Hotel Scaletta**

**Boutique** Road Map A3

Flavijevska 26 Tel (052) 541 599

w hotel-scaletta.com

This tastefully decorated family-run hotel is located just up the road from Pula's famous amphitheatre.

# PULA:

#### Hotel Park Plaza Histria ത്രത Resort Road Map A3 Verudela 17

Tel (052) 590 000

w arenaturist.com

This large and well-equipped resort hotel is surrounded by charming pebble beaches.

# PULA: Hotel Valsabbion @@@

Boutique Road Map A3

Pieščana uvala IX/26 Tel (052) 218 033

w valsabbion.hr

A smart, characterful, family-run hotel. Valsabbion has tasteful rooms and an intimate spa

#### RAB: Grand Hotel Imperial @@ Historic Road Map B3

Palit hh

centre on site.

Tel (051) 667 788

w imperialrab.com

Originally built by the Habsburgs, this is a lovely but not too gaudy hotel, surrounded by greenery.

#### RAB: Padova (Kn) (Kn) Road Map B3 Resort

Baniol hh

Tel (051) 667 788

w imperialrab.com

A large, modern hotel beside Rab's

marina, Padova offers a wide range of facilities and excellent views of the Old Town across the bay.

#### RABAC: Albona Resort Road Map B3 Rabac bb

**Tel** (052) 465 120

w valamar.com

This is Rabac's most versatile resort hotel, with plenty of children's facilities and views out to sea.

#### **RABAC: Villa Annette** (Kn) (Kn) (Kn) **Boutique** Road Map B3

Raška 24

Tel (052) 884 222

w villa-annette.com

A modernist villa set on a hillside overlooking the shore, this friendly place is an appealing alternative to the huge resort hotels.

# RLIEKA: Neboder Historic 1 | Strossmavera 1

Road Map B3

Tel (051) 373 538

w jadran-hoteli.hr

Built in the 1930s, this slender grev slab is a modernist classic. Rooms are masterpieces of minimalist design.

#### RIJEKA: Grand Hotel Bonavia @@ Luxurv Road Map B3 Dolar 4

Tel (051) 357 100

w bonavia hr

Offering top-notch service, the usual facilities and an excellent restaurant, this upmarket, husiness-oriented hotel is set right in the centre of town.

# RIJEKA: Jadran Luxurv

Road Map B3

Šetalište XIII diviziie 46

Tel (051) 216 600 w jadran-hoteli.hr

This elegant modernist building is right on the sea. Many of the large refurbished rooms come with expansive sea views.

#### ROVINJ: Hotel Adriatic Historic Road Map A3

Obala Pina Budicina 16

Tel (052) 800 250

w maistra.com/adriatic rovini Occupying a 19th-century building right by the harbour,

this is Rovini's oldest hotel and still makes for a charming. town-centre pied-à-terre.

# ROVINJ: Park Resort I.M. Ronjgova 11

Road Map A3

Tel (052) 800 250

w maistra.com/park rovini

A short walk from the Old Town. this hotel is situated above the seaside promenade and offers wellness and spa services, as well as indoor and outdoor pools.

# **DK Choice**

#### ROVINJ: Hotel Lone (KA) (KA) Road Map A3 Luxury

Luje Adamovića 31 Tel (052) 800 250

w lonehotel.com

A design hotel that lives up to its billing, this uber-contemporary hotel lies above Lone Bay. Every detail of the interior is the work of Croatian designers and artists, from the abstract sculptures and wall hangings right down to the staff uniforms. The rooms are well appointed and the social areas, grouped around a spiral stairway, are a joy to use.

#### ROVINI: Monte Mulini ത്രത്രത Luxury Road Map A3

A Smarealia 3

Tel (052) 800 250

w montemulinihotel.com

This smart, well-appointed and perfectly situated five-star overlooks the beaches of Lone Bay.

### UMAG:

#### Kempinski Hotel Adriatic @@@ Road Map A2 Luxurv Alberi 300A Savudriia

Tel (052) 707 000

w kempinski.com

Right beside the Slovene border. this chic hotel comes with superb facilities, and there is an 18-hole golf course nearby.

#### VRSAR: Petalon Resort Road Map A3

Petalon 5

Tel (052) 800 250

w maistra.com/petalon vrsar A self-contained hotel situated on a peninsula with pebble beaches, Petalon has an impressive range of sport and recreational facilities.

# **Dalmatia**

# BRAČ:

#### Bluesun Hotel Elaphusa (G) (G) Road Map D5

Put Zlatnoa rata 46. Bol Tel (021) 306 200

w hotelelaphusabrac.com

Facilities here include sporting activities and beauty treatments. Set in a pine wood, not far from the beaches and the town.

#### BRAČ: Villa Adriatica (Kn) (Kn) Road Map D5 **Boutique**

Put Vele Luke 31, Supetar

Tel (021) 755 010

w villaadriatica.com

A chic family-run alternative to the big resort hotels, Adriatica has a pool and hot tub. Located in a aujet neighbourhood minutes from the seafront. Closed Oct-Apr.

#### BRAČ: Bluesun Hotel Borak @@@ Resort Road Map D5

Put Zlatnog rata 42, Bol Tel (021) 306 202

w brachotelborak.com

One of the better, large resort hotels on Brač, it is set among cypresses near Bol's famous beaches and windsurfing bases.

#### **CAVTAT: Hotel Supetar** Historic Road Map F6

Obala A. Starčevića 27 Tel (020) 300 300

w adriaticluxuryhotels.com

In an old stone house right on Cavtat's lovely harbourfront, this is hard to heat for charm, setting and value Closed Nov-Mar

#### DUBROVNIK: Adriatic Resort Road Man F6 Masarykov put 9

**Tel** (020) 433 609 A good-value hotel, Adriatic is situated just above Lapad Bay,

with its nebble beach 4 km (2 miles) from the Old Town

#### DURROVNIK: Karmen R.Q.R Road Map F6

Randureva 1

(G) (G)

Tel (020) 323 433

w karmendu.com

Housed in one of the Old Town's most atmospheric corners Karmen has comfortable apartments that are attractively furnished with antiques.

# DK Choice

#### **DUBROVNIK: Fresh\* Sheets** Kathedral Dubrovnik (Kn) (Kn)

R & R Road Map F6 Bunićeva poljana 6

Tel (091) 896 7509 w freshsheetsbedandbreakfast.

com

Occupying a unique position behind the cathedral, in a historic church-owned building. Fresh\* Sheets offers a mixture of double rooms, family suites and apartments, equipped with modern fittings and allowing plenty of natural light. Breakfast can be enjoyed in the square below. The experience of waking up in the middle of Dubrovnik before the tour groups have arrived is wonderful.

#### **DUBROVNIK: Excelsior** (M) (M) Road Map F6 Luxurv Frana Supila 12

Tel (020) 300 300

www.adriaticluxuryhotels.com

This top-of-the-market historic hotel is perched on a cliff near Old Town, with a private beach and magnificent views.

# DUBROVNIK-

Od Puča 1

The Pucić Palace Luxury

Road Map F6

ത്രത്രത

Tel (020) 326 222

w the pucic palace.com

Set in a 17th-century palace overlooking the Old Town's market, this is Adriatic luxury and atmosphere at its best.

#### DUBROVNIK: Stari Grad @@@ Routique Road Man F6

Od Sigurate 4

Tel (020) 322 244

W hotelstarigrad com

This intimate (8-room) designer hotel is ideally situated in the Old Town: stunning views from its rooftop restaurant. Closed mid-Nov-Feb

#### DUGI OTOK: Hotel Lavanda 69696 Road Map (4 Resort

Božava bb

Tel (023) 291 291

w hoteli-bozava.hr

This complex overlooking the sea. has excellent sports facilities and lots of surrounding greenery.

#### HVAR: Adriatig Resort Fontana 69 Resort Road Map D5

Vitarnia bb. Jelsa

Tel (021) 761 810

w resortfontana-adriatig.com On a hillside, this complex is

minutes away from pebbly beaches and the town of Jelsa.

#### **HVAR: Palace** (G) (G) Road Map D5 Historic

Tra svetoa Stjepana 5 Tel (021) 741 966

w suncanihyar com

The oldest hotel in Hvar. Palace has modernized rooms set behind the town's colonnaded loggia.

ത്രത്രത

Road Map D5

# HVAR: Amfora Resort

Jurja Dubokovića 5 Tel (021) 750 300

w suncanihyar.com

A large resort hotel along the bay from Hvar town, Amfora boasts



Cool rooms and sea views, Monte Mulini, Rovini



Flegantly furnished room, Excelsior Hotel, Dubrovnik

chic rooms, a pebble beach and all modern conveniences

#### **HVAR: Hotel Podstine** ത്രത്രത Boutique Road Map D5

Put Podstina 11 Tel (021) 740 400

w podstine.com

Perched above the sea some 1 km (half a mile) round the bay from the town, this contemporary hotel has a charming boutique feel.

#### KORČULA: Bon Repos Road Map F6 Resort

Duhrovačka cesta 19 Tel (020) 726 880

w korcula-hotels.com

This large hotel is located in idvllic surroundings, some distance from the Old Town but on the sea. The rooms are simple and have been refurbished.

### KORČIJI A. Korčula De La Ville

(Kn) (Kn) Historia Road Map E6

Obala dr. Franie Tuđmana 5

Tel (020) 726 900 w korcula-hotels.com

This elegant pre-World War I hotel on the harbourfront has comfortable rooms. The groundfloor café has one of the best terraces on the Adriatic.

# DK Choice

KORČUI A-

Lešić-Dimitri Palace Boutique **Road Map** E6 Don Pavla Poše 1–6

Tel (021) 715 560

W lesic-dimitri.com

A handful of luxury apartments, occup this row of carefully restored houses, in one of central Korčula's atmospheric, stepped alleyways. Each apartment has a fully equipped kitchen and contemporary bathroom facilities. Breakfast is served on the seafront a short distance away. The friendly staff attend to every detail.

#### MAKARSKA: Biokovo Historic Road Man F5

Obala kralja Tomislava 14 Tel (021) 615 244

w holidaymakarska.com Some rooms at this intimate hotel in the heart of Makarska

# overlook the lively harbourfront. MAKARSKA: Hotel Meteor @@ Road Map F5

Kralia Petra Krešimira IV 19 Tel (021) 564 200

w hoteli-makarska.hr

This ziggurat-like classic of Adriatic modernism is right on the seafront promenade, with a wealth of on-site facilities.

#### METKOVIĆ: Villa Neretva R.R.R Road Map F6

Splitska 14. Krvavac Tel (020) 672 200

w hotel-villa-neretya.com

Set among the mandarin orchards of the Neretva delta, this family-run pension offers cosy rooms above a famous restaurant.

#### MLJET: Hotel Odisei Resort Road Map F6

Pomena bb

Tel 020 300 300

w adriaticluxuryhotels.com

Ideal for exploring the lakes and forests of Mljet National Park, this modern hotel has a beach and good sports facilities too.

# OREBIĆ: Aminess Grand Azur Hotel

(Kn) (Kn) Recort Road Map E6 Kralia Petra Krešimira IV 107

Tel (052) 858 600

w aminess.com

Set on a woodland beach, this is a large hotel with a wide range of activities and sporting facilities.

#### OREBIĆ: Hotel Bellevue Resort Road Map E6 Obala pomoraca 36

Tel (020) 713 193

w orebic-hotels.hr

A stone's throw from a broad pebble beach, Bellevue offers unfussy, good-value rooms and some excellent facilities.

#### PAG: Pagus തെത Resort Road Map (4

Ante Starčevića 1 Tel (023) 611 310

w hotel-pagus.hr

Stretching along a pebble beach. this hotel has large rooms and lovely sea views.

# PRIMOŠTEN:

Adriatio Hotel Zora

Recort Road Map D5 Raduča 11

(G) (G)

Tel (022) 570 048

ത്രത

w hotelzora-adriatig.com

Nestled in a thick blanket of pines and cypresses, this resortstyle complex offers plenty of amenities and is good for families.

### ŠIBENIK: Solaris Lifestyle Hotel Jure

(Kn) (Kn) Resort Road Map D5 Solaris

Tel (022) 361 001

w solarishotelsresort.com This beachside hotel in the Solaris resort is set in park-like grounds. It has a spa and an outdoor swimming-pool complex.

# ŠIBENIK: Solaris Beach Hotel Jakov

ത്രത്രത Resort Road Map D5 Solaris

Tel (022) 361 001

w solarishotelsresort.com This family-oriented hotel in the

Solaris complex, 6 km (3 miles) from town, offers ample facilities and beach access.

#### **ŠOLTA:** Martinis Marchi (M) (M) (M) Road Map D5 Luxury

Put svetoa Nikole 51, Maslinica Tel (021) 572 768

w martinis-marchi.com

Enjoy pampered luxury in this restored castle, with spacious suites grouped that are around a courtyard swimming pool.

# **DK Choice**

SPLIT: Goli&Bosi Hostel Road Map D5

Morpurgova poljana 2

(Kn) (Kn)

Tel (021) 510 999

w gollybossy.com

A converted department store is home to this design hostel, characterized by its yellow, white and black colour scheme. Dorm beds take the form of semi-private cubicles; en-suite doubles and top-floor family rooms are also on offer. The hostel's caférestaurant spreads out into the neighbouring piazza in summer.



A modern temple to wellbeing: Hotel ladera, on the coast just outside Zadar

**SPLIT: Hotel Peristil** ത്രത്രത Road Map D5 Routique Poliana kraliice Jelene 5

Tel (021) 329 070

w hotelperistil.com

Peristil has a wonderful location in the heart of Split's Diocletian's Palace. Some rooms have ancient stonework.

# SPLIT: Radisson Blu Resort

ത്രത്രത Recort Road Map D5 Put Trstenika 19

Tel (021) 303 030

w radissonblu.com/resort-split This resort is 3 km (2 miles) east

of the centre and has a pebble beach and well-appointed rooms.

#### SPLIT: Vestibul Palace (M)(M)(M) Boutique Road Map D5

Iza Vestibula 4

Tel (021) 329 329

w vestibulpalace.com

This spectacular hotel combines modern design with Roman stonework, in Diocletian's former palace.

#### STON: Hotel Ostrea (Kn) (Kn) B&B Road Map F6

Mali Ston

**Tel** (020) 754 555

w ostrea.hr

Afamily-run hotel on the harbour, Ostrea has large rooms, great service and a fabulous restaurant.

### TROGIR: Hotel Concordia Road Map D5

Obala bana Berislavića 22

Tel (021) 885 400

w concordia-hotel.net

This impressive 18th-century town house offers snug rooms and attentive service.

#### TROGIR: Villa Sikaa (Kn) (Kn) Road Map D5

Obala kralja Zvonimira 13

Tel (021) 881 223

w vila-sikaa-r.com

Set on the waterfront opposite the Old Town, this small hotel has spacious rooms and friendly, helpful staff.

#### VIS: Dionis Road Man D6 R&R

Matiie Gubca 1 Tel (021) 711 963

w dionis.hr

This family-run B&B, above a pizzeria, has snug rooms, many of them with sloping attic ceilings.

#### VIS-Issa Resort Road Map D6

Šetalište Apolonija Zanelle 5 **Tel** (021) 711 164

w hotelsvis.com

Overlooking pebbly beaches on the fringes of Vis town, the Issa has a wealth of sporting facilities.

#### VIS: Hotel San Giorgio ത്രത Road Map D6 **Boutique**

Petra Hektorovića 2 Tel (021) 711 362

w hotelsangiorgiovis.com An old stone house in a narrow alley, San Giorgio features cosy modern rooms and a walled orchard garden. Closed Nov-Mar.

#### VIS: Hotel Tamaris (Kn) (Kn) Road Map D6 Historic Obala sv. Juria 20

Tel (021) 711 164

w hotelsvis.com

This 19th-century villa is set right on the harbour. High-ceilinged rooms and a lively first-floor café.

### **ZADAR: Boutique Hostel** Forum

(Kn) (Kn) Hostel Road Map C4 Široka 20

Tel (023) 250 705

w hostelforumzadar.com

Offering designer interiors and several private double rooms, this is one of the new super-hostels.

# **ZADAR: Club Funimation** Borik

Resort Road Map C4 Majstora Radovana 7

(Kn) (Kn) (Kn)

Tel (023) 555 600 w falkensteiner.com

This family-oriented hotel just west of the town has sports facilities, crèches and a pebble beach.

# DK Choice

7ADAR: ladera Sna

ത്രത്രത Road Map (4

Printa Skala Petrčane

Tel (023) 555 601 w falkensteiner.com

Located 10 km (6 miles) north of Zadar just outside the unspoiled seaside village of Petrčane, this luxury spa hotel offers the full range of state-of-the-art facilities. with indoor pools, numerous therapeutic programmes and plenty of beauty treatments. The hotel grounds include a pine forest and grassy lawns. A pebbly beach is a short walk away.

# **Zagreb**

ZAGREB: Hostel Shappy Hostel Road Map D2

Varšavska 8 Tel (01) 483 04 83

w hostel-shappy.com

In the centre of town, Shappy is a smart and soothing hostel with dorms, double rooms

ZAGREB: Studio Kairos Road Map D2 Vlaška 92

and quads.

Tel (01) 464 06 80

w studio-kairos.com

A cosy B&B with small, artistically furnished rooms, each themed around Zagreb's history.

(G) (G)

#### **ZAGREB: Hotel Palace** Historic Road Map D2

Tra J.J. Strossmavera 10

Tel (01) 489 96 00

w palace.hr

This elegant pre-World War I townhouse features retro furnishings and Art Deco design touches.

#### ZAGREB: Sheraton Zagreb @@ Luxury Road Map D2 Kneza Borne 2

Tel (01) 455 35 35

w hotel-sheratonzagreb.com

A 10 minutes' walk from the main square, this international chain hotel has the standards of comfort and service you would expect.

### **ZAGREB: The Westin** Zagreb

(Kn) (Kn) Luxury Road Map D2

Izidora Kršnjavog 1 Tel (01) 489 20 00

w westinzagreb.com

This plush, well-equipped fivestar, in a superb location, towers above an open plaza in the Lower Town.

### DK Choice

7AGRER: Esplanade Zagreh Hotel

ത്രത Historic Road Map D2 Mihanovićova 1

Tel (01) 456 66 66 w esplanade.hr

Opened in 1925 as a haven for passengers on the Orient Express. the prestigious and uber-stylish Esplanade Zagreb Hotel is an architectural gem. Within easy reach of attractions such as the cathedral and the Art Pavilion the city's most iconic hotel combines Art Deco glamour with every contemporary amenity.

# Central Croatia

ČIGOĆ: Tradicije Čigoć Road Map D2 B&B

Čiaoć 7a Tel (044) 715 124

w tradicije-cigoc.hr

This traditional wooden house in the heart of Lonjsko Polje Nature Park. has cosy rustic rooms with mod cons

# KARLOVAC: Hotel Korana Srakovčić

Luxurv Map (2 Perivoosina Vrhanića 8

Tel (047) 609 090

w hotelkorana.hr

A grand villa, the Korana offers style, sophistication and plenty of sports facilities.

#### KRAPJE: Ekoetno Selo Strug (6) B&B Road Map D2

Plesmo 26

Tel (044) 611 215

w ekoetno-selo-strug.hr

These modern bungalows are decked out in traditional country style.



Hotel Vestibul Palace, Split, set in an imperial Roman residence

#### SAMOROR: Hotel Livadić Historic Road Map (2 Tra kralia Tomislava 1

Tel (01) 336 5850

w hotel-livadic hr

This delightful hotel on a charming square features antique furnishings and has a lovely café.

# Slavonia and Barania

# DK Choice

# BILJE: Crvendać

R&R

Road Map F2

Riliske satnije 5 Tel (031) 750 264, 091 551 5711

w crvendac.com

This welcoming, family-run B&B is set in the tranquil Baranja village, just north of Osijek. Set in a well-tended garden, Crvendać (Robin Redbreast) features a charming red-white colour scheme that runs throughout the rooms and communal areas. The owner rents out bikes, perfect for exploring the Kopački Rit Nature Park nearby.

### DARLIVAR: Balise R&R

(Kn) (Kn)

Road Map F2

Tra kralia Tomislava 22 Tel (043) 440 220

w hotel-balise.hr

Balise is a small, centrally located hotel with simply furnished but comfy air-conditioned rooms.

# II OK· Villa Iva B&B

Road Map G2

Stiepana Radića 23 Tel (032) 591 011

w villa-iva-ilok.com

The Villa Iva has neat, bright rooms grouped around a lovely arcaded courtyard, in the centre of this small wine-producing town.

#### OSIJEK: Vienna Apartments R.Q.R Road Map F2

Radićeva 26a

Tel (031) 214 026

w vienna-smjestaj.com

Small but cosy, fully equipped rooms are offered in a quiet courtyard, off a lively cafélined street.

#### **OSIJEK: Hotel Osijek** (Kn) (Kn) Luxury Road Map F2

Šamačka 4

Tel (031) 230 333

w hotelosijek.hr

This large modern hotel towers above the Drava waterfront. It features smart, spacious rooms and spa facilities.

#### OSLIEK: Hotel Waldinger Historic Road Map F2

Županiiska 8

Tel (031) 250 450

waldinger.hr

Burgundy-hued rooms with modern bathrooms are housed in a 19th-century citycentre building.

# ŠPIŠIĆ RUKOVICA:

Hotel Mozart Road Man F2

Kinkovo hh Tel (033) 801 000

w hotelmozart hr

This country-house hotel in the the countryside offers luxury in idvllic, unspoilt surroundings.

#### VUKOVAR: Hotel Lav Luxurv Road Map G2

J.J. Strossmavera 18 **Tel** (032) 445 100

w hotel-lav.hr

This smart, modern hotel offers four-star rooms, exceptional service and a riverside location.

# The Northern Counties

KRAPINSKE TOPLICE: Villa Magdalena

(G) (G) Spa Road Map D1

Mirna ulica 1

Tel (049) 233 333

w villa-magdalena.net

The Jacuzzis in every room and the spa in this award-winning, intimate wellness hotel are fed by thermal waters.

#### TRAKOŠĆAN: Trakošćan (Kn) (Kn) Road Map D1 Resort

Trakošćan bb

Tel (042) 440 800

w hotel-trakoscan.hr

Located right next to Trakošćan Castle and its lake, this modern hotel comes with plenty of sports facilities.

# TUHEL ISKE TOPLICE:

Hotel Well Spa

Road Map C1 Liudevita Gaia 4

(Kn) (Kn)

**Tel** (049) 203 750 w terme-tuhelj.hr

Plush rooms and modern architecture are on offer at this welcoming hotel.

#### VARAŽDIN: Pansion Garestin @ B&B Road Map D1

Zagrebačka 34 Tel (042) 214 314

w gastrocom-ugostiteljstvo.com Discover simple but well-equipped rooms above a restaurant, 10 minutes' away from the town centre.

# WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

Food in Croatia is very varied, from the fresh fish and seafood found along the coast to the Central European staples such as veal, pork and poultry offered in inland Croatia. Proximity to the Balkans ensures that grilled meats and savoury pastries are always to be found too. Croatia's coastal areas offer an extraordinarily rich and healthy Mediterranean cuisine, with fish, octopus and squid joining lamb, fresh vegetables and olive oil. In the east, paprika-

flavoured, goulash-style dishes predominate. Pasta dishes and pizza (with a thin base, in the Italian style) feature virtually everywhere. Wherever you eat, fresh produce and locally sourced ingredients are the rule. Croatian specialities include sheep's milk cheese (paški sir) from Pag, home-cured ham (pršut), and truffles from Istria. Prices are generally lower than elsewhere in western Europe, making eating out in Croatia even more appealing.



Modern dining in a glass pavilion at Bevanda, Opatiia

# **Taverns and Restaurants**

The Croatian word restoran is used almost in exactly the same. broad way as we use restaurant. It is used to refer to any place where you can eat that offers a perhaps more upmarket. more formal dining experience compared to a straightforward bar or café. This can range from expensive fine dining at a hotel restoran to low-key. family-run establishments offering traditional menus. Equally, prices may range from the very expensive to more budget-friendly options.

Less formal places to try out are the numerous gostionica or konoba (both are similar to a trattoria or taverna). These are often family-run businesses and they are good places to try good, traditional, local food. The usual dishes found in a konoba include risotto (rižoto or rižot, depending on the region), lignje (squid rings), grah or fažol (bean soup) and basic grills such as ražnjići (pork kebabs) and čevapi (minced meat rissoles in a bun). There are a growing number of

Asian restaurants (especially sushi outlets), and the number of stylish contemporary bistros offering international food is also on the rise

Most of the *aostionica* and konoba fall within the mid-price range and some offer very good value for money. The average cost of a meal is from around 150 to 220 kuna (between about £16 and £24) This sum would include a starter, a main course (always served with a vegetable) and a dessert. Prices vary according to the standard of the place and its location. A gostionica or konoba along the coast will almost certainly be more expensive than those inland. Sometimes there is an extra charge for bread, but the service charge is usually included in the price of each individual dish.

Along the coast, fresh fish is plentiful though not inexpensive. On menus, the prices of fish and seafood are generally given by the kilo. A useful rule of thumb is that a good-sized portion of fish or seafood will usually weigh about 300 grams (10 ounces)

and so you should be able to predict roughly how much you will be spending. The choice of fish and seafood on offer will vary daily depending on the catch.

Wine is often drunk with restaurant meals in Croatia (for an overview of Croatia's wines, see pp236–7), but it is very common for restaurants to serve a drink called bevanda, a mixture of wine and water, or gemišt, a mix of sparkling mineral water and wine. The local wine and water will be brought to the table separately for you to mix.

Many Croatian cafés (kafić or kavana) don't serve food at all, although an increasing number are beginning to offer quality cakes and sandwiches. Ice-cream and pastry shops, called slastičarnica, are great places to enjoy something sweet.

### Pizzerias

Pizzas are always a good choice for the visitor travelling on a budget. Croatian pizzas are very good and can compete with the best Italian tradition.



Giaxa, set in a superb Renaissance mansion in Hvar town, Hvar island (see p242)



The clue is in the name at 360° in Dubrovnik, with its wraparound views (see p.241)

Pizzerias usually have a range of pasta dishes and salads too. The prices are always reasonable and are on average 30-40 per cent lower than similar meals in many other parts of Europe.

# Picnics and Self-Catering

Picnic food can easily be bought from food shops, supermarkets or from one of the typical openair markets where you can find a great variety of salami, cheeses bread and olives as well as fresh fruit and drinks

Retail food prices are very reasonable and shopkeepers usually try to be helpful. Readymade sandwiches are becoming more popular in Croatia, though some places still make them to order. You will also find simple ready-made snacks such as burek. This is a type of savoury pastry, filled with meat (meso). cheese (sir), spinach (spinat) or potato (krumpir) and baked in an oven. Bakeries selling burek and other pastries can be found on every Croatian high street.

Groups staying in self-catering apartments should also have no problem stocking up. Many hotel complexes with apartments also have mini-supermarkets.

# Vegetarian Food

More and more restaurants now offer vegetarian dishes and there are a few that specialize in vegetarian food. Be aware that some dishes that appear meatfree, like manistra (vegetable soup), may contain meat stock.

However, restaurants, pizzerias and cafés serving Italian-style food will provide options such as pizzas with vegetable toppings and pasta dishes. Otherwise several side orders of vegetables are usually an option and omelettes (omlet) may be available in some places. The choice increases in autumn with the fresh mushroom season. especially in the Istria region.

# Paving

You will find that most Croatian restaurants now accept credit cards, although it is still possible to come across a few where the bill has to be paid in cash.

However, credit cards are often not accepted in cafés or in rural establishments, so make sure that you carry enough cash with you.

# **Opening Hours**

Places serving food and drinks have very flexible opening hours, and it is possible to eat at more

or less any time of the day. especially in tourist resorts. However meal times for locals are broadly as in other Mediterranean countries, Lunch is generally served from about noon to 2nm and dinner from around 8pm to 10pm.

# Recommended Restaurants

The restaurants listed in this guidebook have been chosen based on a wide range of criteria. All are representative of their setting, be that city streets. the Dalmatian islands or the inland plains of eastern Croatia. Fach stands out and has earned a noteworthy reputation.

Listings cover a vast variety of eateries, from simple, family-run taverns, cafés and pastry shops to stylish bistros and formal white-tablecloth restaurants Particular attention is devoted to regional specialities (see pp234-5), from the fresh fish and seafood of the Adriatic to the spicy paprika-flavoured fare of Slavonia. Also featured is Bosnian-Herzegovinian cuisine which is heavily influenced by Turkish and Oriental fare

The DK Choice label means the restaurant is outstanding and heartily recommended. It may serve stand-out dishes with local specialities, offer excellent value be located in beautiful surrounds or a historic building, or have a particularly romantic or charming atmosphere. Whatever the reason, it is an indication that you should have an especially memorable meal.



Deliciously fresh fish and seafood is served at Proto, Dubrovnik

# The Flavours of Croatia

Croatia can be broadly divided into four main culinary regions: Istrian cuisine is proud of its Italian heritage and features elegant pasta, gnocchi and truffle dishes: Dalmatian cuisine is seafood-based and has Venetian echoes: the fertile farmlands of Slavonia have a more Hungarian influence of peppers and spice; while central Croatia retains Austrian predilections - schnitzel, desserts and cakes. However, there are some consistent characteristics – bread is key and is always freshly made either at home or in the local bakery (pekara); fish is important all over the country given the length of the coastline and the many lakes and rivers; and grilling is the preferred cooking method.



Wild anaragus



Sardines and other seafood on sale at Split's busy fish market

With a noticeably Italianate cuisine food is taken more seriously in Istria than anywhere else outside of Zagreb. Here the truffle, tartufi, is venerated. Although freshest in autumn, truffles are used dried all-year-round in risottos and pasta dishes such as mare monti (a "surf and turf" combination of muchrooms

and shellfish). Many restaurant kitchens roast food in a peka a lidded pot buried in hot ashes - to retain all the flavour and juices, Look out for smetina. venison stew with anocchi, or roasted, meadow-fed lamb. Other delights are the soft Istrian smoked ham (pršut) and don't miss the best oysters and mussels in Croatia, farmed in the clean waters of the Limski Channel

# Dalmatia

The Adriatic supplies Croatia with much of its fish. Gilthead bream red mullet sole and John Dory are common, as are clams, mussels, ovsters. octopus, squid, prawns and even crab and lobster The channels created by hundreds of islands are perfect for cultivating excellent quality shellfish. Produce is prepared with olive oil, garlic and herbs,



A selection of tasty dishes at a restaurant in Istria

# **Croatian Dishes and Specialities**

Pršut - smoked ham

Many of Croatia's religious and folk holiday festivals are traditionally associated with a particular dish. Bakalar (salt cod), for example, is eaten on Christmas Eve and Good Friday, kulen (spiced salami) is a Harvest Thanksgiving dish and guska (goose) served with

chestnuts is a St Martin's Day treat. The Turkish occupation, over 200 years ago, has left behind a legacy of grilled meats and kebabs, sarma (cabbage leaf stuffed with rice and mince), burek (filo pastry tube filled with meat or curd cheese), and baklava (pastries filled with nuts and drenched in sweet syrup). Coastal specialities include brudet (fish stew with polenta), crni rižot (cuttlefish ink risotto) and lignje (squid), served lightly fried in breadcrumbs or na žaru (grilled whole).



Maneštra A filling soup made of smoked meat, beans, pasta and vegetables – an Istrian version of minestrone.



Fresh-baked bread and pastries for sale at a Croatian bakery (pekara)

cooked auickly – fried, arilled or boiled - and served simply. Fasy Italian cooking reigns here – risottos, pizza and pasta feature on menus as a result of history. proximity and the sheer number of Italian visitors Try Dalmatian pršut, firmer than the Istrian version, or ianietina – lamb fed on lush island grass and herbs; it's great spit-roasted.

# Central & Northern Croatia

Inland the food is much richer - olive oil is replaced by butter, lard or dripping. Menus are meat-driven with hearty, filling side dishes such as dumplings and noodles - legacies from Austrian rule. Zagreb has a sophisticated gastronomy but outside of the capital, rustic flavours and styles abound and there is a greater use of veal

and game. As well as being grilled, meat is often cooked in a rich stew or spit-roasted (pečenie) – goose, duck, lamb. wild boar and venison are favourites. But perhaps the most obvious Viennese influence is on the rich desserts - pancakes. strudels and rib-sticking štrukli.



Croatian cheese shop, with a variety of hard, soft and goat's cheeses

# Slavonia & Barania

The Austro-Hungarian Empire has also affected Slavonian cooking but with a Hungarian flavour Large portions of warming dishes insulate the mainly rural population from a cold wet and often snowy climate. Expect meat or fish in rich sauces, spiced with paprika. The Drava river provides a good supply of freshwater fish like pike and carp. Do try a few slices of Slavonia's famous appetizer, kulen. This smokecured salami, flavoured with chilli and paprika, is often served with peppers, tomatoes. turšija (pickled vegetables) and sometimes curd cheese

# ON THE MENU

Fiš paprikaš: Fierv fish stew from Slavonia often made with carn and spiced with paprika

Zagrebački odrezak: Veal, ham and cheese fried in breadcrumbs - a super-schnitzel.

Aivar: A savoury red pepper sauce/relish - everyone has their own secret recipe.

Čevapčići: A Turkish legacy spicy meat rissoles served with raw onion, flatbread and aivar.

Blitva s krumpirom: Popular side dish of chard boiled with potatoes, olive oil and garlic.

Palačinke: One of Croatia's top desserts: jam-filled pancakes. with chocolate and walnuts.



Škampi na buzaru Scampi is gently simmered in wine, tomatoes, garlic and herbs; finished with breadcrumbs.



Pašticada A beef joint and seasonal vegetables are slowly pot-roasted in wine - prunes are also sometimes used.



Štrukli This northern Croatian dish of parcels of curd cheese. boiled and then baked, can be either sweet or savoury.

# What to Drink in Croatia

A wide variety of locally made drinks is available throughout Croatia, from beers and wines to fiery fruit brandies. Croatian beer is usually of the lager type but dark beers can also be found, Foreign brands such as Stella Artois, Tuborg, Beck's and Carlsberg are brewed in Croatia under licence, and there are Irish pubs selling Guinness and other Irish beers. Croatia's vineyards yield all kinds of red and white wines, most of which are rarely seen outside the country. Spirits based on grapes are popular as aperitifs rather than as after-dinner drinks, as are other fruit brandies made from plums or pears. Brandies flavoured with herbs, walnuts or even honey are also popular. Tap water is safe to drink but if the taste does not appeal there is a wide range of bottled mineral waters. both sparkling and still.



Typical sign for a pub, pivnica in Croatian



Traditional utensils for the preparation of strong Turkish coffee

### Coffee and Tea

Coffee (kava) is drunk throughout Croatia. All over the country it is served very strong and black, in little cups. like an espresso coffee. If it is too strong you can add a little milk or order a cappuccino (freshly ground coffee with frothy hot milk). Strong Turkish coffee is also available in some places. Herbal teas (čaj) are sold everywhere. Indian teas can also be found, usually served with lemon, but you can ask for milk.

# Beer

Another very popular drink sold in cafés and pubs is beer (pivo), which is always served very cold.



Karlovačko heer



Ožujsko beer

Most bottled beers are of the lager type, but some darker beers can be found. The most well-known brands of lager beer are Ožujsko, made in

Zagreb, and Karlovačko (Karlovac), Another common brand is Pan. Wellknown international beers such as Stella Artois are also widely available (some brewed under licence in Croatia), but tend to be more expensive.

# Spirits

A wide variety of spirits is available in Croatia demonstrating the nation's fondness for strong alcoholic drinks. in particular fruit-based eaux-de-vie. One of the most popular spirits is a plum brandy originating in Slavonia called Šliivovica. It is found all over the country. Loza is a grape-based eau-de-



Many spirits are drunk as aperitifs. A spirit called Bermet is produced in Samobor, near Zagreb, and is made according to an ancient, wellguarded recipe. It is drunk as an aperitif, served with ice and a slice of lemon



Pelinkovac liqueur

Zrinski

brandy



Šliivovica eau-de-vie



Some bottles of eau-de-vie with fruit, made at home all over the country

# Mineral Water, Soft Drinks and Fruit Inicas

All bars and cafés in Croatia will offer a wide range of fruit juices. as well as the usual internationally known brands of soft drinks and fizzy drinks like cola. Tap water is safe to drink everywhere in Croatia and hottled mineral waters (mineralna lamnica voda) are also widely available The most



common brands of mineral water in Croatia are Studena, Jamnica and Jana but there are also many imported brands available as well. Ask for agzirana (carbonated) voda

Orange juice



for sparkling water, or negazirana for still.

Poolside dining area and bar at the promenade in Hvar

# **Drinking Customs in Croatia**

Pubs, bars and cafés are not only places to stop at various times of the day for refreshment. but also places to meet friends and socialize. For visitors this can also be a good way of meeting and getting to know local people.

One tradition found in Croatia is that of mixing wine with other drinks such as mineral water or even cola. A bevanda is red or white wine with plain water, while gemist is white wine mixed with sparkling mineral water. One of the most popular summer drinks is red wine and fizzy cola, a drink called bambus.

Croatians like a drink or two, as is demonstrated by the custom in the Slavonian region of wine drinking with friends. This traditional ritual should only be undertaken by people with a very strong head for alcohol. It begins with the first phase, which is before any wine is consumed, known as the Dočekuša. This is then followed by the Razgovoruša, during which you chat while sipping at least seven glasses of wine. The final phase is called the Putnička, reserved for the leave-taking, when yet more glasses are emptied before people say their final farewells.

### Wines

Croatia is a land of vineyards, with vines growing on the slopes of rolling hills inland and in



7lahtina

islands. Production varies in quantity and quality but standards are improving and there are some very decent wines around. From the Kvarner area come the white wine Žlahtina (from Vrhnik on Krk), red Cabernet (from Poreč) and Teran (from Buzet), a light red.

Dalmatia is known for Pošin and Grk from Korčula (both white wines). Dingač (one of the best Croatian reds)

and Postup from the Peliešac peninsula, Plavac (red) comes from Brač and Malmsey from Dubrovnik, Finally, from Slavonia come Kutievačka Graševina Kutievo Chardonnay and Riesling. and Krauthaker Graševina.





Dingač Postup

# Where to Drink

There are various types of establishments which serve drinks and it is useful to know a few of the basic categories. A kayana or kafić is equivalent to a café and serves both alcoholic and nonalcoholic drinks, while a pivnica serves mainly beer, Irish pubs can also be found, selling Guinness and other Irish beers. Wine is generally drunk in a konoba in coastal towns. In the larger towns you can have a snack with your drink in one of the bife, the Croatian equivalent of a snack bar. However, there are not really rigid distinctions between the types of drinks served in one or other of these places. Cafés open early and close late – usually around 11pm or later in the summer.

Drinks of various kinds (though rarely alcoholic) are also served in pastry shops – slastičarnica. The close links that Croatia's gastronomic tradition has with Austria, and in particular with Vienna, has influenced the production of delicious cakes and pastries as well as excellent sladoled (ice cream). Pastry shops close earlier than cafés in general.



Snack bar with outdoor tables in Fažana, a coastal resort

# Where to Fat and Drink

# Istria and the Kvarner Area

quality, high prices.

RU7FT·Toklarija ത്രത്രത Fine Dining Road Map B2 Sovinisko polie 11 Tel (091) 926 6769 Closed Tue An acclaimed restaurant in a tiny village, the rustic Toklarija takes the best local ingredients. including asparagus, truffles and mushrooms in season, and transforms them into haute cuisine. Slow cooking, superb

#### CRES: Gostionica Belona Seafood Road Map B3

Šetalište 23 travnia 24 Tel (051) 571 203 Closed Dec–Feb A rustic place popular with locals and lively in the evenings, Belona serves seafood staples, usually including excellent squid alongside simple pasta and grilled-meat dishes.

#### CRES. Riva (G) (G) Seafood Road Map 83 Riva creskih kanetana 13

Tel (051) 571 107 Closed Nov-Mar. Facing the town square on one side and the harbour or the other. Riva offers good, fresh fish - try sea bass, scampi or seafood risotto

#### HUM: Humska konoba Traditional Road Map B2 Hum 2, Roč

Tel (052) 660 005 Closed weekdays, Nov-Mar

This tiny village tavern has a beautiful terrace and tasty inland-Istrian cuisine. Try local sausages with sauerkraut, or home-made pasta with truffles.

#### ത്രത്രത KASTAV: Kukuriku Mediterranean Road Map B2 Tra Lokvina 3

Tel (051) 691 519 Famous for presenting traditional Croatian and Mediterranean food in contemporary hautecuisine style, Kukurikú offers seasonally changing five-course menus, each accompanied by appropriate wines.

#### KRK: Konoba Nono (Kn) (Kn) Traditional Road Map B3 Krčkih iseljenika 8

Tel (051) 222 221 Closed Nov–Mar This traditional restaurant specializes in local seafood and Krk specialities. Try the *šurlice*, tubes of pasta basted in goulash or seafood sauce.

#### KRK· Konoba Šime Seafood Road Map B3 A Mahnića 1

Tel (051) 220 042

It is quite dark inside this trusty harbourside restaurant, but it has a bright outdoor seating area, serving fresh local seafood (breaded squid and black risotto are among the favourites), as well as Balkan-style grilled meats.

#### LIMSKI CHANNEL: Viking @@@ Regional Road Map A3 Limski kanal 1, Sveti Lovreč

Tel (052) 448 223 Breathtakingly situated on the shores of the Limski Channel marine reserve. Viking (named after a movie that was shot here) serves locally raised mussels, ovsters and other shellfish, alongside superb fresh-caught fish.

#### LOŠINJ: Marina (Kn) (Kn) Seafood Road Map B3

Obala maršala Tita 38. Veli Lošini Tel (051) 236 178 Closed Nov-Mar. A superb location on Veli Lošinj's main harbour and an emphasis on freshly caught fish make this one of the best places to sample seafood on the island

#### LOŠINJ: Bora Bar ത്രത്രത Mediterranean Road Map B3 Rovenska 3. Veli Lošini

Tel (051) 867 544 Closed Nov-Mar. Run by a long-standing truffle enthusiast, Bora Bar specializes in dishes flavoured by the mighty fungus, although there are plenty of other pasta and seafood dishes. Home-made lemon liqueur can be bought as a souvenir.



Cheerful outdoor terrace and tables at Bora Bar, Lošinj

# Price Guide

Prices are based on a three-course meal for one with a glass of house wine, any taxes and a 10–15% tip.

(Ki) (Ki) (M) (M) (M) un to 120 kuna 120 to 300 kupa over 300 kupa

#### LOVRAN: Draga di Lovrana (@)(@) Mediterranean Road Man R2 Lovranska draga 1

Tel (051) 294 166

On a verdant mountainside overlooking the Kvarner Gulf. Lovran specializes in bringing the freshest produce – from forest or seaboard – direct to the table.

(G) (G)

### MOŠĆENIČKA DRAGA: Johnson

Mediterranean Road Map B2 Maičevo 29b. Mošćenička Draga **Tel** (051) 737 578 **Closed** Apr–Jun; Sep & Oct: Tue; Nov–Mar: Mon–Wed Family members are in charge of the kitchen, service and daily supplies of fresh fish which determine the menu for the day.

#### MOTOVUN: Mondo ത്രത്രത Regional Road Map A2 Barbacan 1

Tel (052) 681 791

The excellent-value Mondo has a romantic candlelit interior, an evocative outdoor terrace, and a menu rich in local Istrian truffles.

#### MOTOVUN: Zigante ത്രത്രത Regional Road Map A2 Livade 7

Tel (052) 664 302 Owned by a local truffle harvesting firm, this restaurant naturally focuses on inland Istria's favourite fungus. Truffle pastas, truffle omelettes and truffle-covered steaks dominate the menu.

# NOVIGRAD: Damir i Ornella Seafood

(M) (M) (M) Road Map A2 7idine 5

Tel (052) 758 134 Closed Nov-Feb Something of a pilgrimage place for seafood lovers, this small and intimate restaurant serves superb fish, including some sashimiinfluenced raw fish dishes.

#### (M) (M) **NOVIGRAD: Marina** Seafood Road Map A2

Sv Antona 38

Tel (052) 726 691

Situated beside the yachting marina, this dedicated seafood restaurant serves imaginative fish dishes accompanied by excellent local wines.

#### NOVIGRAD: Penenero ത്രത്രത Fine Dining Road Map A2 Pornorala hh

Tel (052) 757 706

Adriatic seafood is the main theme at this top-notch restaurant. though most dishes are created by blending varied culinary traditions: the seven-course tasting menu puts Pepenero to the test.

#### OPATIJA: Istranka Road Map B2 Traditional Rože Milanovića 2

Tel (051) 271 835

This folksy restaurant with checked tablecloths is just uphill from the main street. It serves filling soups, inexpensive seafood and tasty local sausages.

#### OPATIJA: Tramerka Road Map B2 Seafood

Dr A. Mohorovičića 15 Tel (051) 701 707

Occupying a narrow alley just above Volosko harbour, Tramerka combines the cosy virtues of a traditional tavern with the finest seafood, with the accent on what's in season and fresh.

#### OPATIIA: Revanda ത്രത്രത Seafood Road Map B2

7ert 8

Tel (051) 493 888 A seafood restaurant offering highquality cuisine and impeccable standards of service. Beyanda occupies a chic seafront pavilion with a glass-enclosed terrace.

#### OPATIJA: Le Mandrać (Kn) (Kn) Fine Dining Road Map B2

Obala Frana Supila 10 Tel (051) 701 357

A sleek glass pavilion right on Volosko harbour. Le Mandrać is famous for matching Adriatic staples with modern creative kitchencraft. Look out for set lunches and multi-course tasting menus.

# **DK Choice**

#### OPATIJA: Plavi podrum @@@ Seafood Road Map B2

Obala Frana Supila 12 Tel (051) 701 223

A refined restaurant on Volosko's picturesque fishing harbour, Plavi podrum has a Croatiawide reputation for its creative fish dishes. It's the perfect place to sample Kvarner scampi, prepared here in a variety of ways. The excellent cellar contains local and international wines by the bottle or the glass; the owner is also a highly regarded sommelier.



Waterside dining with expansive views, Beyanda restaurant, Opatija

Road Map A2

# PORFČ: Nono Pizzeria

Zaarebačka 4 Tel (052) 453 088

Nono serves some of the best and certainly the biggest pizzas in Istria, alongside good steaks, grilled squid and other Adriatic staples. It's small and often full. but worth the wait

#### POREČ: Konoba Ulixes (G) (G) Traditional Road Map A2

Decumanus 2

Tel (052) 451 132 Closed Nov-Apr Rustic and maritime objects decorate the interior of this classy little restaurant, with reasonably priced seafood, pasta and truffle dishes dominating the menu

#### POREČ: Sveti Nikola (M) (M) Seafood Road Map A2

Ohala maršala Tita 23 Tel (052) 423 018

Experience refined dining right on Poreč's harbour-front, with delicately prepared fish dishes and superb risottos backed up by a well-chosen selection of Croatian wines.

Road Map A3

# **PULA: Amfiteatar**

Mediterranean Amfitaatarcka 6

Tel (052) 375 600

Set in the chic modern interior of the Amfiteatar hotel, this restaurant takes the best of Mediterranean cuisine and presents it in both a creative and affordable way.

#### **PULA: Jupiter** Pizzeria Road Map A3

Castropola 42

Tel (052) 214 333

A welcoming pizzeria in the middle of town, with an affordable range of big thin-crust pies, Jupiter also serves soups, salads and grilled-meat snacks.

# PULA: Vodnjanka Traditional

Road Map A3 D. Vitezića 4

Tel (052) 210 655 Closed Sun A little way outside the centre of town but well worth the trip, the homely Vodnjanka serves home-made pasta, marinated fish dishes and roast meats, all at very reasonable prices.

# **PULA: Batelina** Seafood

ത്രത Road Map A3

Čimulie 25 Tel (052) 573 767

Three kilometres (2 miles) south of Pula, this family-run restaurant is legendary for its superb, frequently creative cooking, always involving freshly caught fish and shellfish. Reservations are essential

#### PULA: Milan ത്രത്രത Seafood Road Map A3

Stoin 4

Tel (052) 300 200

An elegant location in which to enjoy the best local seafood. Milan offers fresh fish either grilled or baked, plus a dessert trolley brimming with temptation.

#### PULA: Velanera (M) (M) (M) Mediterranean Road Map A3 Franje Mošnja 3b, Šišan

Tel (052) 300 621 Located in Šišan, 7 km (4 miles) from central Pula, this chic

hotel restaurant serves up Mediterranean and international cuisine with a splash of local Istrian flavour.

#### RAB: Konoba Riva (Kn) (Kn) Traditional Road Map B3

Ulica biskupa Draga 3 **Tel** (051) 725 887

Appealingly decked out in fishing paraphernalia, wooden beams and exposed stone, Riva is a great place to enjoy quality Adriatic seafood at a reasonable price.

RAR: Astoria ത്രത്രത Seafood Road Map B3 Tra Municipium Arha 7

Tel (051) 774 844 Closed mid-Oct-

A first-floor restaurant looking out over the main square. Astoria serves fresh fish and seafond with style and panache, followed by some terrific desserts.

#### RAB: Marco Polo തതി Seafood Road Map B3 Ranial 486

Tel (051) 725 846

Located in the coastal suburb of Baniol, Marco Polo offers Adriatic seafood with an imaginative twist, served in an elegant dining room or on a garden terrace.

#### RIJEKA: Bracera Pizzeria Road Map B2 Kružna 13

Tel (051) 213 782

A popular and enjoyable pizzeria iust off the main Korzo. Bracera features nautical decorations and a satisfying menu of inexpensive pastas, salads, pizzas and risottos, and meats grilled over charcoal.

#### RIJEKA: Konoba Tarsa Traditional Road Map B2 Josipa Kulfaneka 10

Tel (051) 452 089

Up the hill from the centre in Trsat. Tarsa offers a huge menu of pasta and meat dishes, a wide choice of Croatian wines, and an atmospherically rustic interior.

#### RIJEKA: Kuća istarskog pršuta @ Rictro Road Map B2

Riva Roduli 3a Tel (051) 211 129 Right on the harbour, this informal bistro with a handful of tables and bar stools offers soups. cheeses, home-cured pršut (ham)

and local wines from the barrel.

#### RIJEKA: Bistro La Rose ത്രത Road Map B2 French Andrije Medulića 8

Tel (051) 315 504 Closed Sun A welcoming restaurant decked out like a 19th-century living room, La Rose offers Frenchinfluenced soups, quiches and stews, alongside Adriatic seafood standards.

#### RIJEKA: Kamov (Kn) (Kn) European Road Map B2 Dolac 4

Tel (051) 357 980

The restaurant of the Bonavia hotel provides chic modern decor, old-school service, and a menu of Croatian meat and seafood classics given a creative, contemporary European twist.



Softly lit interiors of Wine Vault Rovini

#### ROVINI: Giannino ത്രത Seafood Road Map A3 Augusta Ferrija 38

Closed Tue Tel (052) 813 402 Located in a typically atmospheric alley, Giannino offers superb nasta and seafood in a dining room full of artworks or on a shaded terrace on the street.

#### ROVINJ: Kantinon Road Map A3 Traditional Ohala Aldo Rismondo bb

Tel (052) 816 075

A high-ceilinged harbourside former wine cellar houses this Istrian speciality tayern, serving the best local meats and fish with recipes taken from old local cookbooks

#### ROVINI: La Puntulina ത്രത Seafood Road Map A3

Svetog Križa 38 Tel (052) 813 186

Set in a cliff-hugging stone house decorated with arty objects, La Puntulina excels in imaginative fish dishes, seafood pastas and risottos. The adjoining cocktail bar offers seating on the rocks.

#### (Kn) (Kn) ROVINJ: Veli Jože Road Map A3 Traditional Svetoa Križa 1

**Tel** (052) 816 337

Wooden benches and a jumble of quasi-antiques characterize this enjoyable restaurant offering seafood, pastas and roast meats. Often crowded, but it's well worth the wait

#### ROVINJ: L (Kn) (Kn) (Kn) Fine Dining Road Map A3 Luie Adamovića 31

Tel (052) 632 000

Housed in the futuristic Hotel Lone, L fuses Adriatic ingredients with global herbs and spices to create a light, healthy, exotic cuisine that looks as welldesigned as the building itself.

# ROVINJ: Monte Mediterranean

തത്ത Road Map A3

Montalbano 75

Tel (052) 830 203 Closed mid-Octmid-Apr

A high-class dining experience with friendly, informal service, Monte offers sparkling fish and seafood alongside multi-course tasting menus showcasing creative Mediterranean cuisine.

#### ROVIN I: Wine Vault ത്രത്രത French Road Map A3

A. Smarealia 3

Tel (052) 636 017

Based in the Monte Mulini hotel. Wine Vault is renowned for its quality, French-influenced cuisine and multi-course tasting menus intended to last several hours.

#### UMAG: Badi Spafood Road Map A2 Lovrečica

Tel (052) 756 293 Closed Nov-Mar:

This fine restaurant in the village of Lovrečica is very close to Umag. Great seafood and sublime desserts, in a leafy green setting.

# Dalmatia

#### BRAČ: Bistro Palute Traditional Road Map D5 Porat 4. Supetar

Tel (021) 631 730

Sit right on Supetar's harbour to enjoy Palute's superbly fresh fish alongside inexpensive dishes such as pasta and grilled meats.

#### BRAČ: Taverna Riva Regional Road Map D5 Frane Radića 5, Bol

Tel (021) 635 236

Baked lamb, veal, octopus and Brač vitalac (sheep innards) are among the specialities at this tavern on the Bol seafront.

(Kn) (Kn)

#### RRAČ· Konoba Mlin ത്രത Regional Road Map D5 Ante Starčevića 11. Bol

Tel (021) 635 376 Closed Nov–Mar Situated in an old mill in a beautiful part of Bol, this restaurant serves traditional Dalmatian seafood and meat dishes on a terrace with lovely sea views

#### RRAČ: Ribarska kućica ത്രത Seafood Road Map D5 Ante Starčevića hh. Rol.

Tel (021) 635 033 The hare stone interior and shore-side terrrace of the "Fishermen's Hut" provide an ideal venue to enjoy fish soups, shellfish, scampi, lobster and other Adriatic treats.

#### CAVTAT: Kolona (G) (G) Seafood Road Map F6

Tel (020) 478 787 Closed Nov-Mar A cosy and traditional restaurant with a leafy terrace. Kolona offers traditional seafood specialities and genuinely friendly service. The owner is a fisherman, so freshness is guaranteed.

#### CAVTAT: Galiia ത്രത്രത Seafood Road Map F6 Vulićavićava 1

Tel (020) 478 566 Baked fish with potatoes is just one of the specialities at Cavtat's leading seafood restaurant, with outdoor seating overlooking the seafront.

#### DUBROVNIK: Gradska kavana (6) Café Road Map F6

Pred dvorom 1 Tel (020) 321 202

The principal meeting point for coffee-sipping locals, the "town café" offers an appetizing selection of traditional desserts, including torta od makarule, a famously rich pasta-and-walnut cake.

#### **DUBROVNIK: Komarda** Road Map F6 Grill

Frana Sunila bh Tel (020) 311 393

Hidden down steps just outside the eastern entrance to the Old Town, Komarda cooks meat and fish on an open grill, with tables set out on a shore terrace.

#### DUBROVNIK: Tabasco Italian Road Map F6

Hvarska 48a

Tel (020) 429 595 Immediately below Dubrovnik's cable-car station, Tabasco offers thin-crust pizzas from a woodfired oven, served on a shady secluded terrace.

#### DURROVNIK: Dalmatino ത്രത Seafood Road Map F6 Miha Pracata 6

Tel (020) 323 070 Closed Ian & Feb An evocatively decorated Old Town restaurant Dalmatino serves exquisite fish and superb desserts. alongside selected regional wines.

#### DUBROVNIK: Gloriiet Road Map F6 Seafood Obala Stjepana Radića 16

Tel (020) 419 788 Closed Sun This comfortable restaurant next to the fish market in Gruž is the ideal place to try marinated anchovies, grilled squid, seafood risottos and other Adriatic treats.

#### DURROVNIK: Kopun Road Map F6 Regional Poliana Ruđera Boškovića 2 Tel (020) 323 969 Closed Dec & Jan

Roast capon and traditional Dubrovnik dishes are the specialities at this restaurant, with shaded seating on a lovely piazza beside the Jesuit church.

#### ത്രത DUBROVNIK: Ladv Pi Pi Grill Road Map F6 Peline bb

Closed Nov-Mar Nestling beneath the town walls. the Lady serves up delicious cuts of fish and meat, grilled expertly and served in a walled-garden terrace. No reservations: be prepared to wait.

#### DUBROVNIK: Lokanda Peskariia (Kn) (Kn) Seafood Road Map F6

Na ponti hh Tel (020) 324 750 With outdoor seating spread along the Old Port guayside, this is a reliable choice for grilled squid, seafood risotto and other

# DK Choice

Adriatic staples.

#### **DUBROVNIK: Nishta** Vegetarian Road Map F6 Prijeko bb

Tel (020) 322 088 Closed Sun Nishta kicked off something of a gastro-revolution in fish- and meat-obsessed Dalmatia by opening this strictly vegetarian restaurant right in the heart of Dubrovnik's Old Town. The menu combines Thai, Indian, Mexican and Mediterranean influences to produce a satisfying and varied cuisine (suitable for vegans and gluten-free diners too) that frequently surprises with its creativity and flavour. Only a few tables, so booking ahead is advisable.

#### DUBROVNIK: Orhan Seafood Road Map F6 Od Tahakarije 1

Tel (020) 411 918 On a rocky section of coast beneath Lovriienac fortress. Orhan is a romantic location off the beaten tourist track in which to enjoy grilled fish and steaks accompanied by quality Dalmatian wines

# DUBROVNIK: Tai Mahal Bosnian-Herzegovinian

Road Map F6 Nikole Gučetića 2

Tel (020) 323 221

Don't be fooled by the name: this is a place for delicious Bosnianstyle grilled meats, stews and freshly baked pastries filled with minced meats, tender spinach or salty white cheese.

#### DUBROVNIK: 360° European Road Map F6

Svetog Dominika 1 Tel (020) 322 222 Closed Ian-Mar European cuisine, a huge wine list and extravagant cocktails are on offer at this romantically situated restaurant, which occupies a section of the Old Town fortifications.

#### DUBROVNIK: Bota Oyster ത്രത്രത and Sushi Bar Regional/Japanese Road Map F6 Od Pustiierne bb

Tel (020) 324 034 Fresh on-the-shells from the nearby oyster beds at Ston and imaginative sushi fashioned from local ingredients are served here in evocative Old Town surroundings.



Atmospheric dining on a section of the old city walls at 360° on Dubrovnik

# DK Choice

DI IRROVNIK.

Fish Restaurant Proto @@@ Seafood Road Map F6 Čiroka 1

Tel (020) 323 234 Closed Nov-

Traditional Dalmatian fish and seafood dishes are served with care and imagination at this elegant restaurant just off the Old Town's main street Affordable daily specials are offered at lunchtime, and there is an excellent list of fine regional wines. Outdoor seating on the first-floor terrace makes Fish Restaurant Proto one of the most evocative dining spots in town.

#### **DUBROVNIK: Levanat** ത്രത്രത Seafood Road Map F6

Nika i Meda Pucića 15 Tel (020) 435 352

Fresh fish is either grilled, baked or served with imaginative sauces at this beautifully situated restaurant on the coastal path between Lapad and Babin kuk.

#### DUBROVNIK: Nautika Seafood Road Map F6 Brsalie 3

Tel (020) 442 526 Closed Nov-Mar. Offering fine dining in elegant surroundings. Nautika blends local seafood with the finesse of modern European cuisine. backed up by impeccable standards of service.

#### DUGI OTOK: Spageritimo Road Map C4 Traditional Harbour, Sali

Tel (023) 377 227

In a little port out on the seafront. this restaurant offers fresh fish and seafood, such as squid and octopus, as well as meat dishes.

#### **HVAR: Jurin podrum** Seafood Road Map D5 Donia kola 11. Stari Grad

Tel (021) 765 448 Closed Nov-Apr Occupying a stone building in the centre of Stari Grad's Old Town, "Jura's Cellar" mixes local favourites such as octopus stew or shellfish in wine sauce with a more international selection of grills, pastas and salads.

#### **HVAR: Kod Kapetana** Seafood Road Map D5

Fabrika 30. Hvar town Tel (021) 742 230

Occupying a pleasant spot on Hvar's harbour-front, "At The Captain's" is popular among the locals for its fresh fish and squid, expertly grilled.

#### HVAR· Pizzeria Kogo Pizzeria Road Man D5 Tra svetoa Stiepana 34. Hvar town

**Tel** (021) 742 136

Kogo is a main-square pizzeria. that serves up reliable and well-priced thin-crust pies throughout the year, alongside inexpensive Dalmatian snacks and daily specials.

### HVAR: Turan Road Man D5 Regional

Tel (021) 761 441 Sample a handsome choice of perfectly executed local dishes including stewed octopus, grilled fish and succulent fresh squid. fuelled by first-rate house wine.

### HVAR: Eremitaž Seafood Road Map D5 Ohala hrvastskih branitelja 2, Stari

Tel (091) 542 83 95 Located in what was once a convent, this family-run restaurant serves up a wide range of excellent fish specialities.

#### HVAR: Antika 000 Seafood Road Map D5 Donia kola 24. Stari Grad

Tel (021) 765 479 In the pretty cobblestoned centre of old Stari Grad is this characterful café-restaurant. serving everything from tuna steaks and seafod risottos to cakes and cocktails

#### HVAR: Gariful (M) (M) (M) Saafood Road Map D5 Riva Hvartown

Tel (021) 742 999 Closed out of season With fabulous views of the



Fish Restaurant Proto, Dubrovnik, with outdoor seating on two levels

under-floor aquarium, family-run Gariful serves local seafood with real finesse – although prices are on the special-treat side.

LIVA D. Ciava ത്രത്രത Mediterranean Road Map D5 Petra Hektorovića 11 Hvar town Tel (021) 741 073 Closed Nov-

mid-Anr Although the ingredients are sourced locally, the accent at Giaxa is on inventive European cuisine. The restaurant's setting. in a restored Renaissance mansion is outstanding

# DK Choice

#### **HVAR: Macondo** തതത Seafood Road Map D5 Groda bb. Hvar town

Tel (021) 742 850

This fine restaurant just uphill from the main square has long been regarded as one of the hest places on the island for excellent seafood served in an informal and friendly ambience. The spaghetti with lobster or the scampi in buzara sauce are well worth trying; and the list of local wines provides a good introduction to the island's developing viniculture. Outdoor seating is in an atmospheric narrow allev.

#### KORČULA: Adio Mare (Kn) (Kn) Regional Road Map F6 Marka Pola 2

Tel (020) 711 253 Closed Nov–Mar Sit on the terrace at this restaurant and savour fresh fish and shellfish dishes, along with a choice of local wines. The risotto and Dalmatian pasticada (marinated meat stew) are not to be missed.

#### KORČULA: Konoba Mate Mediterranean Road Map E6 Pupnat 28, Pupnat

Tel (020) 717 109 Closed Sun This family-run establishment makes use of produce from its own garden to prepare the tasty dishes. Try the Labourer's Plate smoked ham with goat's cheese, olives, marinated aubergines and capers.

### KORČULA: LD Regional

(Kn) (Kn) Road Map E6

Don Pavla Poše 1–6 Tel (020) 715 560

Local meat and fish dishes are given an inventive twist at this classy restaurant, with seating on Korčula's waterfront promenade. It's the ideal place to sample the best of local wines and olive oils.

#### MAKARSKA: lež ത്രത്രത Mediterranean Road Map F5 Petra Krešimira IV an

Tel (021) 611 741

Traditional Dalmatian cuisine is served in a modern, light and airy environment The fish dishes are excellent: the desserts divine

#### METKOVIĆ: Villa Neretva Regional Road Map F6

Splitska 14. Krvavac II Tel 020 672 200

This family-run hotel restaurant is famed for its Neretva Delta specialities: frogs legs prepared in a variety of ways, or mixed with chopped eel to make a delicious brodet, a spicy red soup.

#### OREBIĆ: Saints Hills Vinaria @@@ Regional Road Map F6

7aaruda

Tel (020) 742 113

Set amidst vinevards in an old stone house, this winery offers innovative variants of traditional Dalmatian fare. The vegetables and spices used come from the garden outside. Book in advance.

#### PAG: Konoba Bodulo Traditional Road Map (4

Vanarada 19 Tel (091) 564 8212 Closed Oct-Mar.

Fresh and simple food is served in the welcome shade of a grapevine. The menu offers all kinds of seafood, pasta and meat dishes, as well as desserts: the soupy fish stew (brodet) is delicious.

#### PAG: Boškinac (Kn) (Kn) Traditonal Road Map C4 Škonaliska ulica 220

Tel (053) 663 500 Closed mid-Novmid-Mai

Local island produce, including Pag's excellent lamb, fresh fish and famous cheese, are served with style at this boutique hotel's restaurant in its pretty setting.



Tables under the ancient stone arcades at Giaxa, old Hvar town



Restaurant Nautika in Duhrovnik on the western entrance to the Old Town

### **ČIRENIK** · Tipol Traditional

Road Map D5

Tra pučkih kapetana 1 Tel (098) 870 080

Situated in a small square in the Old Town, this restaurant covers two floors and serves a range of Dalmatian classics - seafood. grilled meats and stews.

#### ŠIBENIK: Uzorita Road Map D5 Regional Bana Josina Jelačića 58

Tel (022) 213 660

A sleek interior and modern patio give a contemporary feel to this traditional restaurant, specializing in locally farmed mussels, fresh seafood and roast meats

#### ŠIBENIK: Pelegrini ത്രത്രത Mediterranean Road Map D5

Juria Dalmatinca 1 **Tel** (022) 213 701 Closed Mon; Ian & Feh In a 700-year-old villa alongside

the cathedral, Pelegrini gives a modern twist and exquisite. contemporary presentation to local produce and specialities, including an extensive list of the best Croatian wines. Attentive staff serve unmissable fare in a gorgeous setting.

#### **SPLIT: Bobis** Café Road Map D5 Obala Hrvatskog narodnog

preporoda 20 Bobis is something of a Split institution, serving coffee, cakes and pastries to generations of locals. It's a good place to try local specialities like krostata (fruit pie).

#### SPLIT: Bufet Fife Traditional Road Map D5 Trumbićeva obala 11

Tel (021) 345 223

Very much a legend of the local culinary scene, Fife offers large, inexpensive portions of Dalmatian seafood and stews,

and remains totally unspoiled by its growing popularity with in-the-know tourists.

### SPLIT: Galiia Pizzeria

Road Map D5

Kamila Tončića 12 Tel (021) 347 932

For years Galija has been a favourite among locals, offering inexpensive thin-crust pizzas in a cosy street-corner location a short walk from Diocletian's Palace.

#### SPLIT: Kod Joze Traditional Road Map D5 Sredmanuška 4

Tel (021) 347 397

The traditional decor featuring bare stone walls and fishing nets provides the ideal background for a reliable menu of good, inexpensive seafood.

#### SPLIT: Marian Seafood Road Map D5 Seniska 1

Tel (098) 934 68 48

A tiny, family-run tayern serving fresh fish and traditional stews, Marian is popular with locals and tourists - be prepared to wait for a table in summer.

#### SPLIT: UpCafé Vegetarian Road Map D5 Domovinskog rata 29a

A short walk away from the Old Town, this two-storey café is well worth seeking out for its wide range of vegan dishes and tasty desserts.

#### SPLIT: Varoš Road Map D5 Traditional Ban Mladenova 7

Tel (021) 396 138

A traditional restaurant popular with lunching locals, Varoš has an extensive menu of traditional Dalmatian seafood and grilled meat dishes, washed down with robust house wine.

# SPLIT: Bajamonti @@ Mediterranean Road Map D5

Tel (021) 341 033

In this elegant eatery, you can get coffee and cakes, as well as a juicy steak or a lobster straight from their tank. There is outdoor seating on the Venetian-style Prokurative square.

# SPLIT: Noštromo @@ Seafood Road Map D5

Kraj sv. Marije 10
Tel (091) 405 6666
Right next to the fish market,
Nostromo is a reliable place to
find fresh seafood, cooked with
flair and imagination. Formal
restaurant upstairs; casual bar
on the ground floor.

# SPLIT: Stellon @@ Regional Road Map D5

Tell (021) 489 200
Stellon is a modern-looking barrestaurant above Bačvice beach,
serving pastas and European
classics to a young and
fashionable clientele

# SPLIT: Boban @@@ European Road Map D5

Tel (021) 543 300 Tucked into a residential street, Boban has a long-standing reputation for its high-quality menu of Adriatic and European are; the inexpensive daily specials are popular with local lunchers.

# SPLIT: Kadena 6060 Seafood Road Map D5 Ivana pl. Zajca 4

**Tel** (021) 389 400

Occupying a terrace overlooking the seafront path and yachting marina, Kadena specializes in local fish and shellfish, prepared with haute-cuisine flair.

# SPLIT: Oyster & Sushi Bar Bota @@@ Seafood Road Map D5

Obala Hrvatskog narodnog preporoda 6

Tel (021) 488 648 Located in a striking modern pavilion behind Bačvice beach, this is the place to go for expertly grilled fresh fish, sushi Dalmatianstyle and sparkling-fresh oysters from Ston just along the coast.

# SPLIT: Uje Oil Bar Bistro Road Map D5

Dorninsova 5 Tel (095) 200 8008 Billed as an olive-oil bar, Uje serves quality, tapas-style light bites based on traditional



Dining area on a canopied stone jetty at Foša in Zadar

Dalmatian ingredients, backed up with an impresssive wine list – and a chance to sample boutique Dalmatian olive oils.

# STON: Konoba Bakus @@ Regional Road Map E6 Angeli Radovani 5

**Tel** (020) 754 270

The local seafood menu at this family-run eatery is impeccably cooked and presented – oysters from Mali Ston and traditional Dubrovnik-region desserts are among the specialities.

# STON: Kapetanova kuća @@@ Regional Road Map E6

Tel (020) 754 555

Mali Ston bay is famous for its oysters, which are prepared in a variety of ways at this elegant restaurant near the waterfront.

# TROGIR: Fontana 600 Seafood Road Map D5

Tel (021) 885 744 With an outdoor terrace right on the harbour, Fontana specializes in local seafood,

although you can also enjoy

pizzas and juicy grilled meats.

# **TROGIR: Kamerlengo** @@ Seafood Road Map D5

Tel (021) 884 772

In the heart of the Old Town and boasting a lovely walled garden, Kamerlengo mostly serves seafood – although the grilled meats are also a speciality.

# VIS: Karijola @ Road Map D6

Šetalište viškog boja 4, Vis Tel (021) 711 358 Closed Oct–Apr A branch of the Karijola pizzeria based in Zagreb, this place, with a sea-facing terrace, serves reliable thin-crust pies.

# VIS: Jastožera @@@ Regional Road Map D6 Gundulićeva 6, Komiža

Tel (099) 670 77 55 Local lobster is the focus at this atmospheric restaurant, situated in a wooden pavilion mounted above the shoreline lobster pens. A variety of fresh

# **DK Choice**

fish is also available

### VIS: Pojoda @@@ Regional Road Map D6 Don Cvietka Marasovića 8. Vis

Tel (021) 711 575 Situated in a walled garden shaded by orange trees in the enchanting suburb of Kut, Pojoda enjoys a Croatia-wide reputation for cultivating traditional Adriatic island recipes. The lobster, squid and shellfish dishes are first-class; there are also a lot of homestyle dishes specific to Vis that combine seafood with barley, lentils and chick peas. It's a popular place in summer, so be sure to reserve.

# VIS: Villa Kaliopa Seafood Road Map D6

Vladimira Nazora 32, Vis Tel (021) 711 755

Set in a palm-shaded walled garden, Kaliopa is one of the most romantic places to eat on the Adriatic coast. The fresh seafood is excellent, if a little on the expensive side.

# ZADAR: Na Po Ure © Traditional Road Map C4

*Špire Brusine 8* **Tel** (023) 312 004

Dalmatian staples including fish, squid and pašticada (beef stewed in prunes) fill the menu of this inexpensive and homely bistro in the Old Town.

#### 7ADAR: Šime Pizzeria Road Map (4 Matiie Gunca 15

Tel (023) 334 848 In the seaside suburb of Borik. the enjoyable Sime offers excellent pizzas and pastas on a large outdoor terrace crammed with wooden benches.

#### 7ADAR: Pet hunara (G) (G) Road Map C4 Regional Stratico hh

Tel (023) 224 010 Locally sourced ingredients, a modern-Furopean sense of creativity, and traditional recipes forgotten elsewhere combine to make this one of the best places to enjoy Dalmatian cuisine.

#### ZADAR: Foša ത്രത്രത Seafood Road Map (4 Kralja Dmitra Zvonimira 2

Tel (023) 314 421 Situated in a stone house on a small harbour. Foša serves expertly prepared fresh fish. either simply grilled or served with imaginative sauces.

# **Zagreb**

#### Agava Mediterranean Road Map D2 Tkalčićeva 39

Tel (01) 482 98 26

A narrow flight of stairs takes you to this innovative restaurant. situated on one of the liveliest streets in Zagreb. The black Angus steak is worth a try.

#### Chocolat 041 Café Road Map D2

Masarykova 25 Tel (01) 485 53 82

This centrally located café with a 1980s New Wave theme is noted for its excellent ice creams and a

seriously dangerous array of chocolate cakes. lvek i Marek

Café Road Map D2 Tkalčićeva 70

Tel (01) 482 89 99 This bright, folksy café serves beautiful cakes, all made with wholemeal flour. Try a slice of Međimurska gibanica, a rich layered cake.

#### Kaptolska klet Central European Road Map D2 Kantol 5

Tel (01) 487 65 02

In an attractive courtyard right opposite the cathedral, this restaurant excels in schnitzel-style meat dishes and freshwater fish.

#### Kariiola Pizzeria Road Map D2 Vlaška 63

Tel (01) 553 10 16

A long-standing favourite among locals. Kariiola serves up thin-crust pizzas with traditional Italian and creative Croatian toppings.

#### Lari & Penati Ristro Road Map D2 Petriniska 42a

Tel (01) 465 57 76

This eatery offers high-quality but affordable bistro dishes hased on what the chef finds fresh in the market, with traditional Croatian fare spiced up with global combinations.

#### Millennium Road Map D2 Café

Bogovićeva 7 Tel (01) 481 08 50

One of the most popular places on the Bogovićeva café strip, Millennium has a wide choice of hard-to-resist ice creams, plus tarts, puddings and cakes galore.

#### Nokturno Road Map D2 Italian Skalinska 4

Tel (01) 481 33 94

With tables set out attractively in a sloping alleyway, Nokturno is a popular venue for good. inexpensive pizzas and large. substantial salads.

#### Oranž Café/Wine Bar Road Map D2

Ilica 7 Tel (01) 778 73 00

This smart, chic city-centre venue boasts an impressive selection of cakes and some good savoury choices too, including quiches, sandwiches, burgers, steaks, tapas and salads.

#### Pauza Rictro Road Map D2

Preradovićeva 34 Tel (01) 485 45 98 Closed Sun

Adriatic seafood and Asian spices are the hallmarks of Pauza's imaginative menu, although there's a lot more besides, with soups, pastas and salads serving the lunchtime crowds.

#### Ribice i tri točkice Seafood Road Map D2 Preradovićeva 7/1

Tel (01) 563 54 79

This enjoyable restaurant decked out in maritime murals specializes in Adriatic seafood dishes that won't break the bank with fillets of fish, squid and octopus stews and risottos filling an extensive menu.

#### Sofra (Kn) Bosnian-Herzegovinian

Road Map D2 Radnička cesta 52

Tel (01) 411 16 21 In the Green Gold shopping centre. Sofra is one of the best places in the city to try traditional Balkan grilled-meat dishes and hearty sayoury cheese, spinach

La Štruk Traditional Road Man D2 Skalinska 5 Tel (01) 483 77 01

or potato pies.

This small restaurant serves only štrukli – a northern Croatian spéciality made from dough filled with

cottage cheese. Try the authentic dish or one of the modern variations with additions such as pumpkin seeds, pesto or paprika.

#### Torte i to Café Road Map D2

Centar Kantol. Nova ves 11 Tel (01) 486 06 91

Situated in a shopping centre 10 minutes' walk from Zagreb's main square, this small place serves the most famous cheesecakes in town. Expect flavours both classic and creative

#### Vallis Aurea Central European Road Map D2 Tomićeva 4

Tel (01) 483 13 05 Closed Sun Traditional Croatian fare is served in a wood-panelled interior at this eatery. Slavonian dishes such as čobanác (paprika-rich stew) feature on a meat-heavy menu.

#### Vincek Café Road Map D2 Ilica 18

Tel (01) 483 36 12 Closed Sun Vincek is justifiably famous for its home-made ice cream, but this popular café also offers an array of delicious cakes and pastries.



Old and new combined in the decor and on the menu at Pet bunara, Zadar



Tables on the covered terrace at Vinodol. central Zagreb

Apetit City (G) (G) International Road Map D2 Masarvkova 18 Tel (01) 481 10 77

Specializing in Central European and Mediterranean fare, the menu here features soups, home-made pasta, fresh fish and classic meat dishes. Pair these with wines from the excellent collection.

Rohan Italian Road Map D2 Gaieva 9

Tel (01) 481 15 49 In a brick-lined basement below the café of the same name. Boban serves some of the best pasta dishes in the city, backed up by a good list of Italian wines.

Carpaccio (Kn) (Kn) . Italian Road Map D2 Teslina 14

Tel (01) 482 23 31

This is a chic but not too formal place to enjoy mainstream Italian food, with meat and fish carpaccios filling out the list of starters, veal cutlet mains, and some thrilling desserts.



Tel (01) 553 10 14 Through a courtyard and up some steps, this small, semihidden bistro serves quality Croatian-European fare in small but delicious portions.

Mostovi ത്രത Bosnian-Herzegovinian Road Map D2

Radnička cesta 1a Tel (01) 619 21 78

A large, lively, popular restaurant in Zagreb's new business district. Mostovi serves Balkan-style ovenroast meats, savoury pastries and delicious syrupy desserts.

Nishta ത്രത Vegetarian Road Map D2 Masarykova 11/1 Tel (01) 889 74 44

Closed Mon Quality, creative vegetarian cuisine, complete with vegan and gluten-free options, is served here in bright, relaxing surroundings. The drinks menu includes home-made lemonades and organic wines.

Pod gričkim topom Central European Road Map D2 Zakmardijeve stube 5

Tel (01) 483 36 07 Dishes from all over Croatia are served at this uniquely secluded venue, nestling in a walled garden just below the Upper Town's funicular station.

Vinadal ത്രത Central European Road Map D2 Teslina 10

Tel (01) 481 14 27 Grilled meats and roast lamb are the specialities at this popular city-centre restaurant, boasting a large terrace in a covered courtyard.



Nishta, a haven for those seeking meat-free and gluten-free choices in Zagreb

Raltazar ത്രത്രത Grill Road Map D2

Nova ves 4 Tel (01) 466 69 99

Baltazar has long been a firm favourite among meat-eaters. with traditional cuts of pork and veal expertly grilled and served in an atmospheric courtyard.

# DK Choice

Ristro Anetit ത്രത്രത International Road Map D2 Jurievska 65a

Tel (01) 467 73 35

A short walk north of Zagreb's Upper Town, award-winning Apetit specializes in creative Mediterranean-Furopean cuisine, with fresh, locally sourced ingredients forming the backbone of a seasonally changing menu that includes a good balance of meat and fish. There's a strong list of Croatian and international wines and the desserts are sublime. In summer, tables are set out in an attractive garden. Parking is available for quests.

Dubravkin put ത്രത്രത Road Map D2 Mediterranean Dubravkin put 2

Tel (01) 483 49 75 Closed Sun A culinary landmark, this eatery offers a light lunch menu, a fine dining dinner menu and a dégustation menu that changes daily. The wine collection is extensive.

ത്രത്രത Mano International Road Map D2 Medvedgradska 2

Tel (01) 466 94 32 Closed Sun Exposed brick walls lend postindustrial chic to this restaurant set in a former leather factory: the building also houses a sculpture museum. The menu takes its cue from seasonal

Okrugljak (M) (M) (M) Traditional Road Map D2 Mlinovi 28

availability at the Dolac market.

Tel (01) 467 41 12 Traditional Croatian dishes are cooked with finesse at this Zagreb institution. Try the popular *štrukli* and other meat dishes from the region.

Takenoko (Kn) (Kn) Japanese Road Map D2 Nova ves 17

Tel (01) 486 05 30 Much more than just a sushi bar, Japanese-themed Takenoko serves some of the most inventive fusion cuisine in the country including Adriatic seafood spiced up with oriental ingredients.

Trilogiia (G) (G) Road Map D2 European Kamenita 5

Tel (01) 485 13 94 Closed Sun Situated near the Stone Gate. Trilogija has a changing menu that incorporates ingredients from the nearby Dolac market. The wine list with over a 100 labels from around the world, is impressive.

7infandel's Fine Dining Road Map D2

Mihanovićeva 1 Tel (01) 456 66 44

Modern European cuisine is the name of the game at this elegant but not over-formal hotel restaurant, boasting an Art Decostyled interior and a long list of international wines.

# Central Croatia

#### ČIGOĆ: Tradicije Čigoć Regional Road Map D2 Čiaoć 7a

Tel (044) 715 124

This traditional-style wooden house in a riverside Lonisko Polie stork village provides the perfect ambience in which to feast on freshwater fish and local game.

### GRARER IF IVANIĆKO:

Kezele (Kn) (Kn) Traditional Road Map D2 Vinoaradska 6

Tel (01) 282 04 96

Superb country-cooked classics are served this working farm in a rural setting: mouthwatering spitroasts and baked meats, delicious baked dessert pastries and the farm's own wines and liqueurs.

# JASTREBARSKO: K Lojzeku

Central European Road Map C2 Strossmayerov tra 12

Tel (01) 628 11 29 Closed Sun This well-respected restaurant provides traditional Croatian cooking with a creative twist; expect plenty of roast poultry and grilled meats.

#### KARLOVAC: Žganjer (G) (G) Central European Road Map C2 lelaši 41

**Tel** (047) 641 333

South of Karlovac towards Plitvice, this roadside restaurant prides itself on serving traditional specialities such as spit-roast lamb and suckling pig.



Tapas-style Croatian food at Mali Bar, Zagreb

# SAMOBOR: Samoborska klet @ Central European Road Map C2 Tra kralia Tomislava 7

Tel (01) 332 65 36

This family-run restaurant just behind the town square serves straightforward Croatian fare – schnitzel-style cuts of meat, tasty sausages, and the occasional Adriatic seafood option.

# SAMOBOR: U prolazu

Road Map 🗘 Café Tra kralia Tomislava 5

Tel (01) 336 64 20 One of the specialities of

Samobor is a cream cake called kremšnita, and this popular café. with chairs spread across the town square, is one of the best places to try it.

### SAMOBOR: Pri staroi vuri Central European Road Map C2 Giznik 2

Tel (01) 336 05 48 Closed Tue In a charming cottage above the town square, the "Old Clock" bases its reputation on hearty country cooking involving plenty of yeal, pork and fowl.

#### SAMOBOR: Samoborski slapovi (Kn) (Kn) Seafood Road Map C2

Hamor 16 Tel (01) 338 42 34

Just northwest of Samobor in a wooded valley, Samoborski slapovi is a fish farm with its own excellent restaurant - try the pan-fried trout.

#### SISAK: Cocktail (Kn)(Kn) Central European Road Map D2 A. Starčevića 27

Tel (044) 549 137 Located in the centre of Sisak,

this popular restaurant opts for a mixture of traditional Croatian pork and veal dishes and Mediterranean-influenced pastas and salads.

#### 7VEČAJ: Zeleni kut Regional Road Map (2 Zvečai 109

Tel (047) 866 100

Freshwater fish from their own pond and local meats dominate the menu in this plainly built but idvllically situated restaurant. by gently cascading river falls. Pizzas and vegetarian dishes are also available here.

# Slavonia and Barania

# BRODSKI STUPNIK:

Stupnički dvori . Traditional Road Map F2

Vinoaradska 65 Tel (035) 427 775

ത്രത്രത

(Kn) (Kn)

Dine (almost) among the vines at the restaurant of this restful hotel and fine winery, in a picturesque vine-growing village. The helpful team are ready to help you match their traditional dishes - including wine soup with their own and other Croatian vintages.

### ĐAKOVO: Croatia Turist

Regional Road Map F2 Petra Preradovića 25

Tel (031) 813 391

This is a restaurant that serves the whole gamut of Slavonian cuisine, from spicy kulen salami to freshwater fish and čobanac (spicy meat stew).

#### DARUVAR: Terasa (Kn) (Kn) Central European Road Map E2 Julijev park 1

Tel (043) 331 705

Located near Daruvar's main spa building, this restaurant serves Croatian, Hungarian and Italian cuisine in an ambience of oldfashioned elegance.

ILOK: Villa Iva
Regional
Road Map G2
Radićeva 23

Tel (032) 591 011

This popular guesthouse with a well-stocked wine cellar serves fish fresh from the Danube, pastas, salads, and some superb desserts.

# ILOK: Dunav ©© Regional Road Map G2 Iuliia Benešića 62 Road Map G2

**Tel** (032) 596 500

Set on lawns right beside the Danube, this hotel restaurant is renowned for its fresh fish, serving the spicy stewed fiš paprikaš in individual metal cauldrons.

# ILOK: Stari podrum Central European Setalište O M Barbarića 4 Tel (032) 590 088

This award-winning wine producer has a restaurant in the medieval part of the town over its cavernous cellars, offering new wines and venerable vintages to pair with traditional freshwater fish and meat dishes.

# **DK Choice**

KOPAČKI RIT: Kormoran Traditional

60 Road Map G2

Podunavlje bb **Tel** (031) 753 099

A hearty freshwater fish stew with home-made noodles, spit-grilled carp and dishes made with local game are just some of the rural delights on the menu at this rustic complex set in the Kopački Rit Nature Park. With a relaxed, country-tavern vibe inside and large, safe play areas outside, it's ideal for a family pitstop.

# KUTJEVO: Schön Blick @@ Regional Road Map F2

Zagrebačka 18, Vetovo Tel (034) 267 108 Located in an idyllic rural setting, Schön Blick serves freshwater fish and grilled meats with great finesse.

# NAŠICE: Ribnjak Regional Road Map F2 Stjepana Radića 1 Tel (031) 607 006

Located in a charming rustic location 10 km (6 miles) outside Našice on the Osijek road, the Ribnjak, or "Fishpond", is an excellent place in which to enjoy local dishes, including freshwater fish.



Cosy rustic styling at Kod Ruže, Osijek

# NOVA GRADIŠKA: Slavonski biser Central European Road Map E2

Teslina 2-4 Tel (035) 363 259

This simple but welcoming restaurant serves a well-cooked standard range of Central European dishes and a few local Slavonian staples.

# OSIJEK: Café Waldinger @ Café Road Map F2

Županijska 8 **Tel** (031) 250 470

Tel (031) 250 470
Osijek's most elegant café is a key meeting point for locals and a lovely venue for people-watching: it serves an irresistible range of cakes, pastries, tarts and ire cream.

#### 

Pavla Pejačevića 32 **Tel** (031) 369 400

Pizza is the main attraction at this large, family-oriented restaurant, although grilled meats, salads and pasta dishes ensure that there is something for everyone.

# OSIJEK: Kod Ruže @@ Regional Road Map F2 Kuhačeva 25a

Tel (031) 206 066 Appropriately decked out in agricultural implements, Kod Ruže serves traditional country food such as paprika-rich stews featuring plenty of game and fish.

# OSIJEK: Slavonska kuća @@ Regional Road Map F2

Kamila Firingera 26 **Tel** (031) 369 955

Tel (031) 369 955 Decorated to look like a country kitchen, the Slavonska kuća or "Slavonian House" is one of the best places to sample freshwater fish, either pan-fried, or stewed as hot, spicy fis paprikas.

# SLAVONSKI BROD: Onyx @ Road Map F3

Nikole Zrinskog 50 **Tel** (035) 445 555

Bright, welcoming Onyx is primarily a pizzeria, although it also serves Croatian/European fare ranging from grilled meats to fried squid and Wiener Schnitzel.

# VUKOVAR: Vrške Regional Parobrodarska 3 Road Map G2

Tel (032) 441 788
Set right beside the River
Danube, Vrške is the place for
freshwater carp, catfish or pikeperch, pan-fried *au naturel* or in
breadcrumbs or batter

# **DK Choice**

ZMAJEVAC: Josić @@ Regional Road Map G2

Tel (031) 734 410 Closed Mon, Tue Located in an artfully renovated surduk, or tunnel-like wine cellar burrowed into a hill, Josić is one of the trend-setters of Baranja tourism, serving local specialities such as fiš paprika's (paprikastewed fish) and game, all in a modern setting. The owner is a leading winemaker and there is a choice of wines from Josić and other Croatian vineyards.

# The Northern Counties

**ČAKOVEC: Mala hiža** @@ Traditional **Road Map** D1

Balogovec 1, Mačkovec

Tel (040) 341 101 A menu based firmly in the indigenous, seasonal cuisine is complemented by an extensive wine list in this lovingly restored traditional oak building.

#### ČAKOVEC. ത്രത്രത Međimurska hiža Regional Road Map D1 Gaieva 35

Tel (040) 390 011 Closed Sun The centrally located "Međimurie House" specializes in a game-rich cuisine, with dishes such as bograč (a goulash-style stew).

### KOPRIVNICA: Pivnica Kraluš Central European Road Map D1 Zrinski tra 10

Tel (048) 622 302

An 18th-century beer hall on the main square Kraluš serves up hearty dishes such as beer sausage, grilled pork chops and tasty pečeni grah (baked beans).

#### KOPRIVNICA: Podravska klet (6) Regional Road Map D1

Prvomajska 46a. Stari arad Tel (048) 634 069 Closed Mon This rustic restaurant with wooden tables and a thatched roof offers good local produce – home-made sausage, creamy cows' cheese. game stews and roast boar.

# DK Choice

#### KRAPINA: Vualec brea Regional Road Map D1 Škarićevo 151

Tel (049) 345 015

A rustic hilltop restaurant 7 km. (4 miles) west of Krapina, Vuglec breg specializes in traditional Zagorie specialities such as roast turkey, goose, pork and veal knuckle - all of which are best enjoyed with home-made mlinci (pasta sheets soaked in meaty inices) The wine list features inland Croatia's best labels. The desserts are first-class and the views of the rolling Zagorie hills are worth savouring.

# KRAPINSKE TOPLICE: Zlatna Lisica

Central European Road Map D1 Martinišće 29

Tel (049) 236 627

With a great view overlooking rolling hills, this simple restaurant serves great country food. Try the sausages, game stews, and locally caught roast boar.

# DK Choice

KRAPINSKE TOPI ICE-Villa Magdalena Regional Road Map D1

Mirna ulica 1

Tel (049) 233 333 Seasonal produce and local specialities are given a contemporary gastro-style makeover at award-winning Villa Magdalena, offering both à la carte and multi-course taster menus, with vegetarian and macrobiotic options for those immersing themselves in the ambience of this spa destination. The setting, amid the green slopes of the Zagorie

# KUMROVEC: Villa Zeleniak

Traditional

hills, is beautiful.

Risvica 1 Tel (049) 550 747

Set in lush green surroundings. this restaurant follows the culinary tradition of Croatia to prepare classic dishes using locally sourced ingredients.

# MARIJA BISTRICA: Restoran Academia

Regional

Zagrebačka bb

ത്രത്രത Road Map D1

ത്രത

Road Map (1

Tel (049) 326 600 Located in the Hotel Kai. this smart restaurant injects some modern European creativity into the traditional Zagorie repertoire of poultry, grains and pasta.

# SVETI KRIŽ ZAČRETJE: Klet Koziak

Regional Road Map D1 Kozjak 18a, Sveti Križ Začretje Tel (049) 228 800

In a restored hilltop farmhouse 10 km (6 miles) south of Krapina, this traditional restaurant offers



Peaceful, hilltop setting at the traditional Vuglec breg, Krapina

home-made pastas followed by a choice of fine strudel.

### TRAKOŠĆAN: Trakošćan Central Furonean Road Man D1 Trakošćan hh

Tel (042) 440 800

A hotel restaurant set in rural surroundings, the Trakošćan serves Croatian standards with a regional, Zagorie slant substantial soups and meat dishes are the stand-outs

### VARAŽDIN. Kayana Grofica Marica

Café Road Map D1 Tra kralia Tomislava 2

Tel (042) 320 077

With outdoor seating that billows across the main square, Grofica Marica is an ideal spot for a mid-morning coffee, and also has a wide choice of pastries and cakes – including their own-brand Grofica Marica chocolate torte

### VARAŽDIN: Verglec Regional Road Map D1

Silviia Strahimira Kranjčevića 12 Tel (042) 211 131 The centrally located Verglec

straddles two culinary cultures with a menu offering both excellent pizzas and filling northern Croatian fare, Roast duck and roast pork are among the specialities.

#### VARAŽDIN: Turist (G) (G) Central European Road Map D1 Aleia kralia 7vonimira 1

Tel (042) 395 395 This elegant hotel restaurant serves fine food from all of Croatia's regions, with game dishes, grilled meats and Adriatic

seafood all well represented.

# VELIKITABOR:

Grešna Gorica (Kn) (Kn) Road Map C1 Regional

Taborgradska 35, Desinić Tel (049) 343 001

This hilltop farm (with a diverting petting zoo) offers generous cuts of grilled and roast meats, locally sourced poultry, and home-made pasta. Grab a table that enjoys the views of Veliki Tabor castle.

# ZABOK:

Dvorac Gjalski (Kn) (Kn) Central European Road Map D1 Gredice Zabočke 7

Tel (049) 201 100

This excellent hotel restaurant is based in a former castle and has a medieval theme. The extensive menu includes a wide variety of Croatian cuisine.

# SHOPPING IN CROATIA

Croatia does its best to encourage its visitors to go shopping (indeed it is a significant factor in local economies) and there is a range of traditional and typical crafts that make excellent souvenirs. The prices are by and large very reasonable too. Shoppers can choose from a variety of products from works of creative handicraft such as handmade lace or hand-painted ceramics to jewellery.

On the island of Pag, exquisite lace is made and in Osijek, where beautiful embroidery is a proud tradition, you can also buy pretty costume dolls. Ties and fountain pens, both of which originated in Croatia, also make good purchases. In some resorts, local artists make a living by selling their watercolours. Visitors can also buy all sorts of delicious Croatian comestibles, from honey to plum brandy.



Jars of various types of honey, a speciality on the island of Solta

# **Opening Hours**

Shops and department stores are usually open from 8am to 8pm from Monday to Friday (but some stores may open at 7am and close at 9pm) and from 8am to 2 or 3pm on Saturdays, However, remember that sometimes small shops in the smaller towns close at lunchtime, usually from noon to 4pm in summer. Shops are generally closed on Sundays and holidays but in the high season in the tourist resorts many shops stay open for business as usual

### Prices

The prices are fixed in the shops and it is not usual to haggle over prices. This is also the case. in the markets and at the street stalls where prices are also fixed and it is not common practice to negotiate. The prices are

often displayed in the markets. but it should be remembered. that at times the prices displayed are not always the same as those applied to the local people. The spending power of foreign visitors is frequently much greater than that of the local Croats and can occasionally result in pricing variations for locals

# Paving

In department stores, shopping centres and the major chain stores it is possible to pay using one of the main international credit cards. In the smaller shops and in places such as markets, payments should be made in cash, with kuna.

# Vat Refunds

Tourists in Croatia who spend more than 740 kuna on a single item are entitled to a refund of the Value Added Tax (VAT) which is called PDV in Croatia. When making your purchase, vou should ask the sales assistant for the appropriate form (PDV-P or Tax Free), which should be properly filled in and stamped, on the spot.

This document should be handed to the customs authorities on departure from Croatia, thus verifying that the item bought is genuinely destined for export.

A PDV refund in kuna can be obtained within three months, either at the same shop where the goods were purchased (in which case the tax is refunded immediately), or by posting the verified receipt back to the shop. together with the number of the bank account into which the refund should be paid. In this case the refund is dealt with within 15 days of receipt of the claim

# Markets

The street markets of Croatia are colourful, lively places to stroll around.

In Zagreb, the Dolac (see n159) is a daily market where food is sold under colourful red umbrellas. There is also an underground area here where other products such as meat. dairy products and food are sold

In Split there is a morning market which is held every day on Pazar, just east of the palace walls. This market sells absolutely everything: fruit, vegetables, flowers, shoes,



Fruit and vegetables on sale at the Dolac market in Zagreb

clothes and a vast assortment of souvenirs. There is a local saving which has it that if you cannot find what you are looking for at this market, it probably does not exist (at least not in Split)

# Shopping Centres

Large shopping centres can also be found in Croatia mainly in the larger towns and cities. Here you will find a number of shops selling assorted merchandise under one roof, usually including a large department store or supermarket

In Zagreb one of the busiest and hest-known department stores is Nama which is right in the centre of the city. Another useful shopping centre, also in the city centre, is **Importanne** 

Centar. The Importance Galeriia is open weekdays and Saturdays.

Avenue Mall is another huge shopping centre has over 130 shops, including international names such as Benetton. Adidas Esprit and Marks & Spencer. Westgate Shopping City is a huge shopping centre iust outside Zagreb.

#### Traditional Handicrafts

There are lots of opportunities for the visitor to buy a variety of typical Croatian handicrafts and produce, which make very tempting souvenirs.

The country has a long tradition of skilled production of a rich range of handicrafts and typical produce. Production of these crafts is encouraged and supported by the local authorities, who see it as a good way of preserving the cultural heritage and the ancient traditions and crafts of the country.

In Zagreb, you can buy clothes, handbags, fashion accessories, pillow cases and table linens embroidered with Glagolitic (ancient Slavic) letters and traditional motifs at Etno butik Mara. In Split you can find a large assortment of souvenirs, including objects clearly inspired by maritime



Decorated ceramic objects on display

themes. You can also buy good reproductions of objects from the era of Roman rule in the underground area of Diocletian's Palace (see n122)

In Osijek, many shops in the centre of the city sell typical locally made handicrafts. Here you can also find dolls dressed in beautifully made costumes, packages of special lace and in particular fabrics finely embroidered with gold and silver thread

#### **Embroidery and Lace**

One important typical Croatian craft is the art of embroidery. which is carried out more or less everywhere.

One very characteristic design is a red geometric pattern stitched onto a white



Gold thread embroidery produced in the town of Osijek

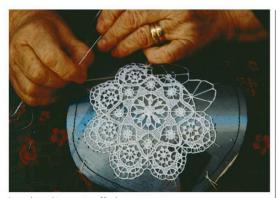
background. This design is used to decorate table linen, pillow cases and blouses.

In 2009 lace making in Croatia was inscribed on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list. This includes three different traditions of lace making. namely Pag needlepoint lace, Lepoglava bobbin lace and Hyar aloe lace.

The lace of Pag is justly famous and widely admired. The origins of the lace date back to the Renaissance period, when it was used to decorate the blouses of the ladies of the island of Pag.

However, it was not until the beginning of the 20th century that this particular handiwork assumed its welldeserved fame, thanks to a beautifully decorated blouse given by a noblewoman to the Archduchess of Austria Marie Josephine. This gift was so greatly appreciated and admired that the archduchess went to Pag in person to order more items of clothing. At that time, the Austrian court set trends for others to follow, and this was enough to guarantee the future success for the production of this lace.

The lace is made on a long cylindrical cushion by lacemakers of great skill and tremendous patience. The lace patterns produced are the lacemaker's interpretation of patterns and designs which have been passed down from generation to generation. In this



Lacemaker working on a piece of Pag lace

way, the pieces of lace that are produced can often be very different from one another However, all the patterns originate with the same geometric structure which forms the base.

Pag lace is surprisingly light but at the same time strong. If at all possible, pieces of the lace should be bought in Pag itself. Not only can you be sure of paying a better price than elsewhere but you will be helping to keep alive a tradition which is over a century old.

Prices vary according to the size of the piece you buy. but if you consider that a table centrepiece measuring 10 cm (4 in) in diameter takes a good 24 hours to make, you will have some idea of the labour involved

The only place to buy lace in Pag is at the Lace gallery and **shop** in the old part of town.

## **Lucky Jewellery**

There is one item of jewellery which can only be found in Croatia or, more precisely, only in Rijeka. This is the morčić or small Moorish figure. The figurine, in the form of a black character wearing a turban, was originally produced as earrings but today you can also find tiepins and brooches. The morčić has become the symbol of the city and, in 1991, it was proclaimed the mascot of Rijeka. A legend dates the origins of the figurine to the city's unexpected liberation

from a Turkish siege during the 16th century. It was shown that a determining factor in the victory was the contribution of the women of Rijeka and it is said that their men decided to give them a gift of special earrings made to represent the invaders who had been forced to flee for their lives

In fact, it seems more

likely that the morčić originated in the 17th and 18th centuries as a local reproduction, made from decidedly poor materials, of a figurine set with stones which was very popular with the Venetians. The An earring with the figurine represented the morčić of Rijeka connections between Venice and the Fast and the mystery that this part of the world symbolized for them at the time. The figure soon became a symbol of good luck among the Istrian people and

since that time it has become more lavish and elaborate so much so that its production has become the preserve of goldsmiths. The body of the figure is traditionally glazed ceramic On request precious stones may be used to decorate this figure. The best place to buy a morčić in Rijeka is the Mala Galeriia

#### Curiosities

Croatia can claim to have invented one of the most wellknown of men's accessories, the tie, or cravat. The tie actually originates from a type of scarf worn by Croatian cavalrymen to distinguish them from other soldiers during the bloody

30-year war which devastated

Europe in the 17th century. The French took to referring to this particular way of tying the scarf as "à la cravate". meaning "in the Croatian

way". Since that time the tie, or cravat, has become a standard symbol of smart elegant dressing for hundreds of millions of men in the world

The production of ties in Croatia todav is still of a very high standard, and a tie would make a highly appropriate choice

for a souvenir of your visit. There are some very good clothes shops in the centre of Zagreb where you can buy an assortment of ties, including the high-end Boutique Croata.



One of many jeweller's shops in Croatia

Another little-known fact is that the inventor of the fountain nen was an engineer from Zagreb, In 1906, one Eduard Slavoljub Penkala patented a mechanical pencil and a year later a nen with a reservoir of ink called the "mechanical nen" which revolutionized the way people wrote.

The inventor opened the first factory for the production of fountain pens in Zagreb in 1911. Within a short space of time it became an enormous success. and developed into one of the most important manufacturing centres for writing instruments. producing fountain pens which were exported all over the world There could not be a more appropriate place to buy this everyday item than Zagreb itself.



Ties on display in a shop in the centre of Zagreb

## **Local Produce**

The gastronomic specialities and local produce of Croatia are as varied as the landscape of Croatia.

Among the country's bestknown natural products, one of the most important is lavender Lavender is sold dried in small bags or as essence in bottles. It can be found more or less all over the country but is particularly linked with the island of Hvar (see pp130-33), where its colour and scent can nearly overwhelm the senses when the shrubs are in flower. The scent is particularly pungent when you browse the lavender



Paški sir, the sheep's cheese of Pag, sold on the island

stalls near the port, where you can buy any number of cosmetic products made with lavender.

The gastronomic specialities of Croatia also make excellent souvenirs. Many places have their own particular speciality. Among many items worthy of mention are the mustard (in traditional containers) made in Samobor, near Zagreb, the honey from Grohote, on the island of Šolta, and cukarini biscuits from Korčula, Croatia is also famous for olive oil. Uie oleotecas, a chain of stores that sell olive oil wines jams traditional Croatian sweets as well as olive wood products and ceramics, can be found in Zagreb, Osijek and many coastal towns

Another unmissable delicacy is the delicious truffle found around Buzet, overlooking the Mirna valley in Istria (although these are only available in season). Other delicacies include pršut (a type of smoked ham) and kulen (a type of smoked sausage) found in Slavonia.

However, the most highly valued product is cheese. Croatia produces a range of its own cheeses, and the most well-known is paški sir. a mature cheese made from sheep's milk, produced on the island of Pag (see pp 104-5). It is still made according to traditional methods and the grazing pasture for the sheep, full of aromatic herbs, is said to give it a distinctive flavour.

To buy the cheese on the island just look for signs with the name of the cheese, "paški sir" outside the farmhouses.

#### DIRECTORY

# **Shopping Centres**

#### Avenue Mall

Avenija Dubrovnik 16 Zagreb.

Tel (01) 659 10 50

Open 8am-10pm daily (cafés. restaurants and cinema stav open longer).

#### Importanne Centar

Starčevićev tra 7, Zagreb.

Tel (01) 457 70 76. Open 9am-9pm Mon-Sat.

### Importanne Galerija

Iblerov tra 10. Zagreb.

Tel (01) 461 95 03.

Open 9am-9pm Mon-Sat.

#### Nama

Ilica near Trg bana Jelačića, 7agreh

Tel (01) 480 31 11.

#### Westgate Shopping City

Zaprešićka 2. Jablanovec. Donja Bistra (free bus service from Zagreb).

Tel (01) 555 33 33.

#### Shops

#### **Boutique Croata**

Prolaz Oktogon, Ilica 5. 7agreb

Tel (01) 645 70 52.

### Etno butik Mara

Ilica 49, Zagreb.

# Lace gallery and shop

Trg Petra Krešimira IV, Pag.

#### Mala Galeriia

Užarska 25. Rijeka. Tel (051) 335 403.



Seller of essence and lavender bags on the island of Hvar

# ENTERTAINMENT IN CROATIA

Although Croatians speak a language which is most likely completely unknown to the average visitor, the country still manages to offer a surprisingly varied range of accessible and engaging entertainment for visitors of all age groups. A choice of opera, ballet, folk music festivals, disco nightclubs, cinemas, casinos, tennis, football and basketball matches should be sufficient to satisfy

anyone. The settings for many of these entertainments are often memorably spectacular, too. Performance details are readily available from weekly or monthly magazines of events and from tourist offices and websites. Tickets are usually easy to come by, and can be bought at venue ticket desks or often in advance from local tourist offices. Read ahead to see what's on and where to go.



Ornate interior of the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb

#### Information and Tickets

For information concerning dates, times, prices and booking details of the various festivals, shows, theatre performances and musicals. it is best to get in touch with the relevant local tourist information office in Croatia. All these offices can provide details about the cultural events happening in their part of the country. Another good source of information can be the Internet. The Croatian National Tourist Board's website is www. croatia.hr.

Posters announcing forthcoming events are often displayed all over cities and towns and these are often useful for finding out about the more important or more popular shows.

For information concerning theatre performances, you can also go to the theatre box office itself, where you can usually buy tickets on the spot.

#### Theatre and Dance

Plays are generally performed in the Croatian language which, unless you speak it. can marginalize the theatre as an evening's entertainment for all but the most ardent thespians. There is, however, an important reason why you should nonetheless check out what's on at the theatre in any town you happen to be in. High-class performances of opera and ballet, for which not knowing the language is not a barrier to enjoyment, are put on by Zagreb's Croatian National Theatre, Zadar's Croatian

National Theatre, Rijeka's Croatian National Theatre Ivan pl Zajc and Split's Croatian National Theatre

For a more unusual form of drama which also has the advantage of being accessible to visitors, especially families with younger children, consider a visit to the unique Zagreb puppet theatre, the Zagrebačko kazalište lutaka.

They put on performances almost every weekend.

Croatia's many traditional festivals not only have particular dishes associated with them but dances too. The most famous of these is undoubtedly Korčula's sword dance traditionally enacted in the town centre on the evening of St Theodore's Day, July 29th. Such is the attraction of the Moreška, as it is known, that this costumed 15th-century dance is now performed outside of that holiday date - every Monday and Thursday at 9pm throughout July and August, sometimes even in June and September as well Tickets at the event, or in advance from an agency, are not terribly expensive. It is obviously touristy, but still worth seeing as they really do swing those swords around. At any festive occasion in Croatia, there are several famous folk dances you may well come across: the poskočica, where couples weave themselves into intricate configurations: the kolo, a pan-Slavic circular dance and the drmes, a type of speeded-up polka.



Costume drama in Dubrovnik, at the Rector's Palace



Musicians playing traditional Croatian music

# Music

Whilst Croatia has nurtured classical composers and does have many aspiring rock bands. unfortunately few people outside of Croatia have ever heard of them. But don't let that put you off.

Croatia does have a rich tradition of folk music and these bands play all along the Adriatic at summer open-air concerts. on holiday festivals and even in hotel lobbies to entertain tourists after dinner

Unusual instruments to look out for are the tamburica, a sort of Turkish mandolin, in Slavonia and the citra, a poignantsounding type of zither (a horizontal stringed instrument). You will also come across variations on the folk theme. such as klapa – five- to ten-part harmony singing, mainly by males – or lively linđo dance music from the Dubrovnik region accompanied by the lijerica, which is a three-stringed instrument. The traditional songs of the Međimurje in the north of Croatia are very beautiful.

For a wide range of musical styles, global, local and avantgarde, the Aquarius Club in Zagreb is one of the top places in Croatia. Otherwise, be sure not to miss the music and pyrotechnics of Dubrovnik's Summer Festival, held over five weeks between July and

August, and anything at all going on in the evening at Pula's ancient and stunning Roman amphitheatre.

# **Niahtclubs**

Cafés, bars and pubs all over Croatia often put on live music especially at weekends. But if after a few drinks, you want to party on into the night, then the capital or the coast in summer are the places to be. Entrance prices vary between about 50 and 100 kuna and venues open around 10pm, although most people arrive fashionably late, towards midnight or later.

Winter closing times are 11pm from Sunday to Thursday and midnight on Friday and Saturday, but in the summer clubs go on into the early hours of the morning, Open-air bars on the Adriatic coast will serve until 3am: open-air discos stop at 5am. Younger Croats simply don't have the cash to go out as often as they would like - but if there's a Croatian hand on and it's a weekend they'll be out in force. dressed-up and fully made-up Weekday parties in the coastal resorts are therefore going to be predominantly for holidaymakers. Where you will find plenty of locals almost anytime are the multipurpose entertainment complexes in 7agreb or Split, where all their café-bars. cinemas discos etc are usually crowded with youngsters.

Zagreb, Rijeka, Split, Pula and Dubrovnik all have wellknown discos and nightclubs. though times and conditions change so frequently that they should be checked out locally beforehand.

Zagreb has the ever-popular Aguarius Club which although 4 km (over 2 miles) from the city centre has dancing to commercial technoland Croatian bands on a terrace overlooking Lake Jarun, Green Gold Club is for serious party people - five clubs in one open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. with VIP areas often frequented by local celebrities. Boogaloo Club, a popular place for young people, always tries to be upto-date in the Croatian and world music scene and hosts international DJs. Močvara, in a disused factory on the banks of the river Sava, is a trendy place, home to gigs, exhibitions and performances of an alternative. off-beat kind

Palach Youth Cultural Centre. the oldest rock club in Rijeka. hosts a range of performances by rock and alternative bands from Rijeka and nearby areas.



The amphitheatre in Pula, summer venue for spectacular concerts



Carpe Diem beach club, Hyar

If you prefer a big, techno party house teeming with teenagers. the Colosseum in otherwise staid and stately Opatiia is the place to go.

Split boasts several clubs with open-air terraces looking out to sea, the best of which are the two-storey O'Hara and the palm-filled Tropic Club. The Hemingway Bar offers a wide selection of drinks, especially cocktails, good music and occasional live performances.

Rock Club Ulianik has Pula's liveliest alternative concerts in a vacant building above the shipyards. Out of town are Aruba Club, a lounge bar and disco, and Summer Club, for pop/house partying.

Dubrovnik is diverse in what it offers: Culture Club Revelin takes over the Revelin fort with high-volume techno; Night Club Fuego is casual, relaxed and plays a range of music: Club Lazareti is popular and holds concerts, parties and events

On the islands, Hvar has become a fashionable centre for nightlife and developed a bit of a reputation as a party island. Farly evening activity centres around Hyar town harbour, in bar-cum-clubs like Carpe Diem where the dancers warm up before heading up the tree-covered hillside to a big old Venetian fort that has been converted into an amazing venue, with tented structures hosting plays, concerts and an open-air nightclub, Veneranda. Papaya Club, on Zrće beach on the

island of Pag, hosts the world's leading DJs. Less fashionable but just as much fun is the Faces Club on the island of Brač near Bol

#### Casinos

As you would expect, the capital Zagreb has the most casinos and as with the rest of Croatia they are found in the more upmarket hotels. (There are "casinos" in lesser hotels but they are usually not worth visiting.) Try those at the Hotel International Hotel Westin and the Golden Sun Casino in the Hotel Antunović. Anv casino will have an array of slot machines along with a number of card tables where stakes are relatively low. Normally you can wear just smart casual clothing and walk straight in. However, it might be worth calling ahead beforehand - the most upmarket casinos may ask to see your passport before you can enter.

#### Cinema

Most large towns in Croatia have a cinema. Zagreb has several multiplexes, such as Cinestar in Avenue Mall and Branimir Centar and Cineplexx in City Center One Fast Kinoteka shows cult and art films Tickets cost from 20 to 40 kuna and films are shown in their original languages with Croatian subtitles. You can expect to see the latest Hollywood hits Conditions can be more basic in smaller towns where you may come across rows of wooden chairs, rather like being back at school. Neither will things be so luxurious in the summer open-air cinemas which are more atmospheric: the films too might not be your first choice but the experience is worth trying.

# Spectator Sports

Tito's post-war Yugoslavia, of which Croatia was a part. consistently put out strong teams in handball, football (soccer) basketball and water polo Since 1991 when Croatia broke away to become an independent nation, this small country of only 4.5 million people continues to excel in those sports and has added tennis to its sporting repertoire. If you love tennis then go to www.croatiaopen.hr to find out the latest news on the ATP Croatia Open Championships, held at Umag in July.

Croats, just like so many other Europeans, love their football. The 1990s saw now legendary



Hotel Westin in Zagreb, home to a casino

Croatian players like Štimac. Bohan and Šuker rise as international stars as Croatia for the first time became a serious footballing nation: quarterfinalists in the 1996 European Championships and, two years later, third at the World Cup, 1998. Although they haven't scaled those heights since. If you want to see a game during your stay try either Dinamo Zagreb at the Maksimir Stadium on the capital's east side or Haiduk Split at the Poliud Stadium, Split. Matches are traditionally held on Sunday afternoons throughout most of the year, with only a short holiday break in the summer.

Like football, the country's top two basketball teams are in Split - KK Split who have

been European Club Champions many times – and Zagreb - with rival contenders, Cibona, Those familiar with the game will know the names of the local stars on the international scene such as Čosić. Petrović. Kukoč. Tabak and Rada, and that Croatia was the third best team at the Toronto World Cup in 1994

If you want to see a basketball game the Cibona team in Zagreb. hosts top quality matches at the Dražen Petrović

Basketball Centre every Saturday evening from October to April - tickets are sold on the door.



The Cibona basketball team from Zagreb during a match

#### Theatres

# Croatian National Theatre

Trg Gaie Bulata 1, Split. Tel (021) 306 908.

#### **Croatian National** Theatre

Široka ulica 8.

7adar Tel (023) 314 586

#### Croatian National Theatre

Trg maršala Tita 15, Zagreb. Tel (01) 488 84 15.

# Croatian National Theatre Ivan pl. Zaic

Uliarska 1, Rijeka. Tel (051) 337 114

#### Zagrebačko kazalište lutaka

Ulica baruna Trenka 3, Zagreb. Tel (01) 48 78445.

# Music

## **Dubrovnik Summer Festival**

Od Sigurate 1, Dubrovnik (ticket office). Tel (020) 326 123.

#### Roman Amphitheatre

Tourist office: Forum 3. Pula. 7 (052) 219 197.

# **Niahtclubs**

# Aquarius Club

Aleia Matiie Liubeka bb. Jarun, Zagreb. Tel (01) 364 02 31.

#### Aruba Club

Šijanska cesta 1. Pula.

Boogaloo Club Ulica grada Vukovara 68, Zagreb.

Tel (01) 631 30 22.

#### Carpe Diem

Riva. Hvar.

#### Club Lazareti

Frana Supila 8. Dubrovnik.

#### Colosseum

Ulica maršala Tita 129. Opatiia.

### Culture Club Revelin

Svetog Dominika 3, Dubrovnik.

# Faces Club

Near Bol. Brač.

# **Green Gold Club**

Radnička cesta 52.

Zagreb. Tel (099) 256 33 23.

#### Hemingway Bar

8 Mediteranskih igara 5, Split. Tel (099) 211 99 93.

DIRECTORY

Trnianski nasio bb. Zagreb. Tel (01) 615 96 67.

# Night Club Fuego

Brsalie 8. (near Pile Gate). Dubrovnik.

#### O'Hara

Uvala Zenta 3, Split. Tel (095) 504 99 09.

# Palach Youth

**Cultural Centre** Kružna 8. Rijeka.

#### Papaya Club

Zrće Beach, Novalja, Pag.

# **Rock Club Uljanik**

Dobrilina 2. Pula

# Summer Club

Medulin, Pula.

#### Tropic Club

Bačvice bb, Split. Tel (099) 203 92 22.

#### Veneranda

On the hill above Riva. Hvar town, Hvar.

#### Casinos

#### **Hotel Antunović**

Zagrebačka avenija 100a, Zagreb. **Tel** (01) 387 05 30.

#### **Hotel International**

Miramarska 24, Zagreb. Tel (01) 615 00 25.

#### **Hotel Westin**

Izidora Kršnjavoga 1, Zagreb. Tel (01) 554 52 71.

#### Cinema

#### Cineplexx

City Center One East, Slavonaska avenija 11d. Tel (01) 563 24 00

# Cinestar Novi Zagreb

Avenue Mall, Aveniia Dubrovnik 16, Zagreb. Tel (060) 323 233.

#### Cinestar Zagreb

Branimir Centar Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb. Tel (060) 323 233.

#### Spectator Sports

#### Dražen Petrović Basketball Centre

Savska cesta 30. Zagreb. Tel (01) 484 33 33.

#### Maksimir Stadium

Maksimirska 128. Zagreb. **Tel** (01) 238 61 11.

### w gnkdinamo.hr

# **Poljud Stadium**

8 Mediteranskih igara 2, 21000 Split.

Tel (021) 585 200

w hajduk.hr

# **OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**

One of the keys to Croatia's tourist success. is that it is blessed with such bountiful natural resources – waterfalls, islands hills, rivers, lakes, canvons, mountains, pine woods and verdant parks - all soaked in dependable Mediterranean sunshine. To its credit. Croatia has responded well by providing a good infrastructure backed by a multitude of organizations to get visitors climbing and rafting, sailing and surfing,

hiking and biking throughout its wonderfully diverse topography. There are also less energetic activities to be enjoyed Croatia has several thermal spa centres that can be a bit utilitarian but are getting better as retreats for unwinding after some activity. Finally, of course, the coastline and myriad islands have a glittering choice of beaches for sunworshippers.



Sailing along the Croatian coast

# Sailing

The Croatian coastline has many natural harbours, ports and marinas, making it a real haven for sailors. As a result, the best way to fully appreciate the rugged beauty of Croatia's Adriatic coastline is not by car but by yacht or motorboat. With clean, clear sea, steady, moderate winds, waters in which it is easy to anchor and well-equipped marinas open all year round, a sailor's life is made easy in Croatia. If possible. avoid July to August, unless you really want to spend the time with every weekend admiral in Europe. May to June or September to October are more neaceful, cost less and what is more the weather is still good.

The Croatian National Tourist Board (www.croatia.hr) lists over 140 companies with some 2,700 boats available for hire, typically rented out on a weekly basis from 5pm Saturday to Saturday next at 9am. The most important decision for the holiday maker is whether to go "bareboat" or "skippered". The

a valid licence with at least 2 years' experience on it and register the crew. You are then free to sail off on your own. "Skippered" means that for about another 130 euros per day, plus food, you'll have a local in charge who knows exactly what he or she is doing. Prices vary depending on the size of boat and time of year. The British company Nautilus Yachting, for example, will arrange a week "bareboat" on an 11-metre (36 ft) boat sleeping six for around 2,200 euros, while the Croatian company Club Adriatic has a few 4-berth

former requires that you show

1.800 euros, again for seven days. Anyone sailing to Croatia in their own boat must report to the nearest Harbour Master's Office on arrival if it is over 3 m (10 ft) in length and has an engine over 4 kW.

10-metre (33 ft) craft for around

From Umag to Dubrovnik. Croatia has 50 marinas with everything a sailor could want: refuelling and repair services, water and electrical hook-ups,

medical assistance and surveillance, cafés, bars and restaurants. Marinas are classified according to the level of service they offer and charge accordingly. The Adriatic Croatia International Club also known as ACI

Marinas, runs a chain of 22 marinas to which you can take out a vearly contract for use of all facilities and discounted berth fees. In addition there are plenty of temporary moorings available. Or you could simply overnight in a deserted bay

Another way to experience the combination of sailing and Croatia's unique coastline is to enroll on a special holiday to learn how to sail. Bareboat Sailing Holidays offers holidays for sailors of all different levels of experience, although there are plenty of other similar companies.

Coastal radio stations give weather updates in both Croatian and English, Useful radio stations include Radio



Mooring in the harbour at Makarska

Rijeka UKW channel 24. Radio Split UKW channels 07, 21, 23, 81 and Radio Dubrovnik UKW channels 07 and 04

# Windsurfing

Most coastal resorts offer windsurfing courses and boards for hire, but serious surfers will eniov two places in particular: Bol on the island of Brač and Vigani on the Peliešac Peninsular, close to Orebić, Both resorts have many renowned windsurfing clubs, offering kit and courses from beginner to expert, Also, note, both places play annual host to international championship events in July.

The windsurfing season runs from early April to late October and the westerly winds are at their peak in the early afternoon. Conditions are ideal in late May/ early June and in late July/early August - though the latter, of course, is in the high season.



Windsurfing, a very popular sport along the Croatian coast

## Diving

Although Croatia may not be the Caribbean or the Red Sea, it nonetheless has its fair share of interesting dive sites. Nature has fashioned plenty of underwater caves from the porous karstic limestone along the coast, to which you can add the further attractions of sea walls and shoals of fish and, at greater depths, shipwrecks and corals. Lošinj Island has all the above features and is probably the most comprehensive dive site in Croatia. If fish are your interest,



The clear waters off Croatia, rich in marine life and coral

try Vis – thanks to its military background the island was never commercially fished and consequently has the richest marine life The best underwater caves are around the beautiful Kornati Islands, while interesting shipwrecks can be found near Rovini (Baron Gautsch.1914 passenger ferry), Dubrovnik (Taranto, 1943 merchant ship) and the Peliešac Peninsular (\$57, another merchant casualty of war from 1944)

regulations about who can dive where. To dive at all, you will need to show a current diver's card issued by an internationally recognized diving organization. For a small fee, this is then given a year-long validation by the **Croatian Diving Federation** or any of its agents - which could be an authorised tourist agency or the nearest diving club to your hotel. Diving clubs

There are however rules and

abound in the Adriatic and are useful not only for hiring equipment but also for going on guided tours with Englishspeaking instructors.

Areas off-limits to divers are around military installations protected cultural monuments and some but not all nature reserves. Diving is forbidden in Krka and Brijuni parks for example but with a permit is allowed in the Kornati National Park and the islands of Mliet. Check beforehand if you intend to be adventurous

# Fishina

The Adriatic Sea is one of the richest in Europe and draws all kinds of fishermen. In order to ao fishing you will need a licence. These are issued by tourist offices, authorised agencies and diving centres and clubs which have an arrangement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The cost of a licence is not terribly great and depends on its duration - you can nurchase licences valid for 1 day, 3 days, a week or 30 days. The licences permit fishing with a rod and line or a spear gun and it is possible to fish everywhere except in the protected areas of the marine parks (that is, Kornati, the Brijuni islands, Krka and Mliet), Along with the licence you will receive a list of the areas which are offlimits and indications of the number of each fish species that you are allowed to catch.



Locals showing the wide variety of fish and shellfish in the Croatian sea

# Hikina

Croatia is criss-crossed with countless hiking paths and trekking trails – marked by a white dot within a red circle painted onto a tree or rock. Contact the **Croatian** 

Mountaineering Association (HPS) for information about the many local walking clubs, maps and the national whereabouts of mountain buts for simple overnight accommodation. The best time of year for hiking is between April and October. However, be aware that the removal of unexploded mines is still taking place in the conflict zones of the 1991–95 war so don't wander off established trails. See the Croatian Mine Action Centre website (www.hcr.hr) for specific information

Top trails would have to include the Premužić ridge path, heading for 50 km (31 miles) at around 914 m (3,000 ft) through the Velebit massif, a short distance east of the central Dalmatian coast, and offering breathtaking views both into continental Croatia and way out to sea; the gorges and beech forests of Paklenica

National Park, 40 km (19 miles) northeast of Zadar; Mt Ilija above Orebić for superb mountain coastal scenery; the fortified hill-towns of the Istrian interior; Samobor and the Risnjak National Park in central Croatia and the Zagorje Castles district in the northern counties.

# Free Climbing

As with hiking, climbing is also best pursued from April to October – after which there's the prospect of a sudden snowfall or being blasted by the bura, a strong cold wind from the northeast Croats may not be thought of as Alpinists but they have scaled the Himalayas many times. have their own Croatian Mountaineering Association and plenty of home mountain ranges in which to practice their sport. Again, the Paklenica National Park is popular, having more than 400 climbing routes to choose from, Cetina Valley near Omiš in central Dalmatia is another prime destination. for climbers. Should you want to climb and spend time at



the beach as well, consider heading for the peaks on the islands of Brač, Vis, Mljet, Krk, Hvar, Cres and Lošinj plus those on the peninsulars of both Istria and Peliešac.

# Cycling

Cyclists, like hikers, get the full benefit of the outdoor fragrances, riotous bird-song and chance encounters with the locals that their sport brings. Regional tourist boards in Croatia have worked hard to promote a sensible series of designated bike routes. The national parks and nature reserves lead the way with clearly marked bike trails taking you in a circular tour back to where you began. The Plitvice Lakes provide scenic cycling at its European best. Similarly circuitous routes exist on the islands of Rab. Hvar and Mljet where out-of-the way beaches and restaurants come into the picture too Istria tourist board has also been prominent in looking after cyclists by running rural trails out of and back into Rovini. Labin and Novigrad. You can find more details at www.istra. hr. Hiring bikes can be the best way to get around the island and find secluded bays. Expect to pay around 10-15 euros a day for bike hire.



Rock climbers on the famous Anica Luka rock at Paklenica National Park



Clay court tennis, a popular sport in Croatia

#### Tennis

After football, tennis is Croatia's most popular sport. Almost every town, holiday hotel and camp site will have the necessary facilities – usually plenty of excellent clay courts. Two of the best-equipped clubs are the Tennis Club Pećine in Rijeka and the Tennis Club Smrikve in Pula. If you enjoy watching tennis, the ATP Croatia Open Championships are held at Umag in July. At any tennis club in Croatia vou're likely to be reminded of the achievements of their hestknown sportsman: Goran Ivanišević, who is perhaps most famous internationally for winning the Men's Singles at Wimbledon in 2001.

#### Golf

Golf is becoming increasingly popular in Croatia. There are five major courses: Golf & Country Club Zagreb, Golf Centre Novi Dvori near Zagreb, Golf Adriatic near Umag and Lifeclass Terme Sveti Martin and Golf Brijuni near Čacovec, as well as several smaller locations

with golf facilities. To play at a Croatian golf club vou mav need to show a membership card issued by the national federation from your home country. This will indicate your handicap, which to you tee-ing off. It's a good idea to check what identification you'll need in advance.

# Whitewater Rafting

This most accessible of the extreme sports began in Croatia around the late 1980s, opening up remote canvons and rivers known before only to kayakers and fishermen. The most rewarding places to raft through wild scenery on waters clear down to the river bed itself and innocent of vicious rapids or huge waves - are the Dalmatian rivers of Zrmania, near Zadar, and Cetina, near Omiš. and the rivers Dobra and Kupa, near Karlovac in central Croatia. Agencies like **Kompas** in Zagreb organise trips with guides and all the gear. Otherwise try the website www.activeholidayscroatia com

#### Relaxation

Several spa resorts offer natural thermal springs and treatments. They emphasise the relaxation aspect more than the treatment but have excellent sporting facilities (see Thermal Spas Tour pp216-17).



may be required prior Golfers on a pratice course

#### DIRECTORY

#### Sailing

#### ACI Marinas

M Tita 151 Opatija Tel (051) 271 288.

w aci.hr

# **Bareboat Sailing Holidays**

w bareboatsailing holidays.com

Club Adriatic

w clubadriatic.com

Nautilus Yachting w nautilus.hr

# Divina

#### Croatian Diving Federation

Dalmatinska 12. Zagreb. Tel (01) 484 87 65.

w diving-hrs.hr

# Hikina

## Croatian Mountaineering Association

Kozarčeva 22. Zagreb.

Tel (01) 482 36 24.

w hps.hr

## Whitewater Rafting

# Kompas

w kompas.hr

#### Tennis

#### Tennis Club Pećine

Šetalište XIII divizije 33, Rijeka. Tel (051) 421 782.

# Tennis Club Smrikve

Stinianska cesta 91, Pula. Tel (052) 517 011.

# Golf

#### Golf Adriatic

Tel (052) 707 100.

#### **Golf Brijuni**

Tel (052) 525 883.

#### Golf Centre Novi Dvori

Tel (01) 334 07 77.

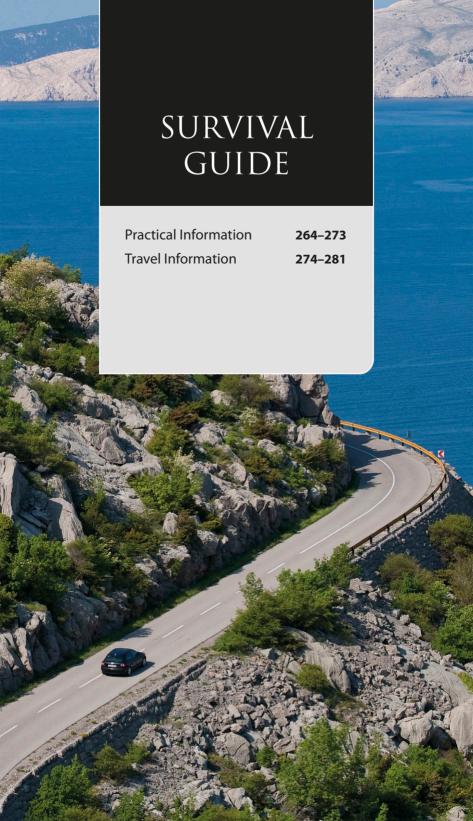
# **Golf & Country Club Zagreb**

Tel (01) 653 11 77.

# Lifeclass Terme Sveti Martin

Tel (040) 371 111.





# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

In Croatia, tourism is an important source of revenue (accounting for approximately 15 per cent of the GDP in 2014) and every effort is being made to foster the growth and development of the industry. Since independence in 1991, a number of measures have been taken to encourage visitors, including simplifying border formalities and introducing tax reductions on items destined for export. Hotels and historic buildings damaged in the war

have been rebuilt and modernized, and road and maritime links have been improved, both internally and with neighbouring countries. The country has reaffirmed itself as a popular holiday destination, able to offer tourist facilities of international standard at competitive prices. Croatia joined the European Union in 2013, though many of its pre-existing regulations and practices already fell in line with EU standards.



Tourist asking for help and directions

#### When to Go

The most popular time to visit the Croatian coastline are the summer months of July and August. With its crystal clear seas, combined with thousands of islands and bays for exploring and swimming, the coast is a major attraction. The summer weather is reliably sunny, another important aspect for many.

In the peak season, hotels and resorts are at their busiest, so if a quieter holiday is preferred, it would be better to travel during May, June or September, when the weather is still fine but resorts are not so crowded. Another advantage of travelling out of peak season are the low prices. Spring and autumn are the best months for hiking, climbing and mountain biking.

Inland Croatia is home to a number of thermal spas, and it is possible to combine a few days of therapeutic treatment or

relaxation (see pp216–17) with visits to cities and towns with their rich historical and artistic heritage.

Unlike nearby Slovenia, Croatia's facilities for winter tourism are not yet welldeveloped, although there are a few ski slopes, such as in Platak, the Medvednica and the Bielolasica mountains.

Zagreb, the capital, offers many attractions and is a great destination throughout the year.

#### Visas and Passports

To enter Croatia, visitors need to have a valid passport. People from countries in the European Union, the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand do not need a visa and may stay for up to 90 days. Croatian authorities have signed a bilateral agreement with EU countries, according to which EU citizens need only carry an identity card to enter Croatia.

To check if you require a visa, visit the website of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (www.mvep.hr). If you do need one, seek advice from the Croatian Embassy in your home country.

All foreign citizens must register with the local police within 48 hours of arrival in the country. Failure to do so may result in a fine or even expulsion from the country. In practice, if you are staying in a hotel, the reception staff will take care of this procedure for you.

People travelling with pets must ensure that their pets have been microchipped and carry an International Pet Passport as well as all the documents verifying that their pets'vaccinations are complete and up to date, particularly with regard to rabies.

# **Travel Safety Advice**

Visitors can get up-to-date travel safety information from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the UK, the State Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia

#### Customs Information

There are no restrictions on personal effects brought into Croatia by travellers and customs regulations are as for all EU member states. It is permitted to carry into or out of Croatia, 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars, 1 litre of spirits, 4 litres of wine, and 50 millilitres (one bottle) of perfume or essence.

On entering the country, high-value items such as radio equipment, computers, photographic equipment, video cameras and other recording equipment and portable televisions must be declared.

Arrival in the country by boat must be reported to the Harbour Master's Office along with the number of people on board and all equipment.

Foreign and local currency and cheques may be freely taken in and out of the country by both foreign and Croatian citizens with foreign residence, but transfers of 10,000 euros or more must be declared.

## Tourist Information

Every town and city has a tourist office called Turistički Ured Turistička Zajednica or Turistički. Informativni Centar These staterun offices provide information on sightseeing excursions and transport and will often help visitors to find accommodation in hotels or private rooms (see pp222-3). However, in smaller cities and towns these offices are open during summer only.

Additionally, there are county and regional tourist offices, managed by the Ministry of Tourism

Alternatively, you can contact the Croatian National Tourist **Board** in your home country before leaving. The Croatian Ministry of Tourism has set up information offices in all major countries to publicize the attractions Croatia has to offer. The website of the Croatian National Tourist Board is particularly helpful.

#### Admission Prices

Most state-run museums and historical sites charge an entrance fee hetween 10 km and 70 kn. Children are normally entitled to a 50 per cent reduction in admission prices.

Churches are usually free. though if there is an adjoining bell-tower or treasury, you may have to pay to visit them.

# **Opening Hours**

Public offices open from 8am to 4pm or 9am to 5pm on weekdays. While most other office businesses more or less follow these standard opening times, these hours may vary for other businesses, such as pharmacies (see pp.268-9), banks (see pp270-71) and post offices (see pp272-3), the bigger ones of which are also open on Saturdays, Shops are usually open 8am-8pm (see p250), while cafés tend to open quite early.

Note that many museums and other cultural attractions are closed on Mondays. During summer, most have extended daily opening hours, and in coastal resorts, some close in

the afternoon (when visitors are most likely to go to the beach) but open in the evening

# Language

Croatia is called Hrvatska in the national language, Croatian (hrvatski). It is a Slavic language and is written in the Latin script. Croatian is not an easy tongue to learn, but since most people in the country have studied at least one other foreign language. visitors should be able to make themselves understood in most circumstances, Italian, German and English are widely spoken while French is less common. Young Croatians generally speak verv good English.

## **Etiquette and Smoking**

Smoking is very common in Croatia (an estimated 30 per cent of the population smokes). but is officially banned in all enclosed public spaces, except for cafés that have approved air conditioning systems. While most establishments in Zagreb adhere to this law it is frequently ignored in the south of the country. All the same, in summer, you can sit at the outdoor tables to avoid the smoke in closed spaces.

#### Taxes and Tipping

The practice of tipping, usually calculated at 10 per cent, is widespread in Croatia, even in

restaurants, where a service charge is normally included in the price When paying in bars or in taxis it is expected that at least the sum will be rounded up It is also customary to tip the tourist or museum quides after a tour has ended

In department stores, supermarkets and shops, the prices for goods are fixed. Bargaining. especially aggressive haggling is not generally part of Croatian street-market culture

#### Travellers with Disabilities

In Croatia there is a great awareness of the problems faced by the disabled particularly because of the war of independence which left many people with disabilities. Stations. airports, larger hotels and restaurants above a certain standard, and the main public offices in larger towns are accessible to those in wheelchairs. However, facilities at the ports are not so good.

Disabled visitors are entitled to a 50 per cent reduction in ticket prices at most state-run museums. For further information contact the Hrvatski savez udruga tjelesnih invalida (HSUTI), the Croatian organization for the disabled, which has its headquarters in Zagreb. Also useful is the **HUPT** website, which provides information on accessible beaches and accommodation



Pedestrians walking on a stone bridge in Ploce Gate, Dubrovnik

# Travelling with Children

Tourist complexes such as large hotels and resorts usually provide facilities for children, such as playgrounds, pools and babysitting services. However, these may be harder to find in smaller towns and inland regions less visited by tourists.

When travelling with Croatia Airlines on domestic flights, children under 2 years of age go free, while those between 2 and 12 years of age get a 50 per cent discount. Children are also entitled to a 50 per cent reduction in tickets prices for most state-run museums.

## Gay and Lesbian Travellers

Homosexuality is still rather taboo in Croatia. Same-sex couples should refrain from public displays of affection so as not to cause offence. You can find out more at www. friendlycroatia.com.

# Travelling on a Budget

Low-cost accommodation is available in most destinations in the form of youth hostels and private rooms to rent. Decent youth hostels can be found in the cities of Zagreb, Split, Dubrovnik, Rijeka, Pula, Zadar and Šibenik, as well as on the islands of Hvar and Lošinj. Some, but not all, come under the Croatian Youth Hostel Association (www.hfhs.hr) umbrella group. Many hostels are part of the Hostelling



Conventional clothing should be worn when visiting churches



A secluded beach on the Dalmatian coast

International group (www. hihostels.com) and if you plan to stay in these it is worth joining and acquiring a membership card before setting off.

An International Student Identity Card (www.isic.org) entitles you to discounts on travel expenses such as 25 per cent off train tickets.

#### What to Take/Wear

In summer you will need light cotton clothing with a jacket or pullover for the evenings, plus swimwear. In winter you will need woollen jumpers and a warm coat. Also be sure to pack at least one pair of decent walking shoes as some of the medieval towns have unevenly paved or cobbled streets.

Although it is rarely necessary to dress in formal clothes, clothes which are neat and tidy will be appreciated. For example, trainers are not suitable for dining in an upmarket restaurant.

Croatia is quite a religious country, so, when visiting churches, make sure you have your thighs and shoulders covered (that goes for both men and women).

#### Forms of Greeting

Croatians tend to be quite reserved with strangers. Attempting a few words in the local language will be appreciated. The forms used vary according to the person you are addressing; he or she may be a gospodin (a man),

a *gospođa* (a married woman) or a *gospođica* (a young single woman).

Greetings vary for the different times of the day: dobro jutro (good morning), dobar dan (good afternoon or good day), dobra večer (good evening), laku noć (good night). Bok (hi) and ciao are informal greetings. Doviđenja is commonly used to say goodbye to people you are not familiar with.

For polite requests use *molim* (please) and *hvala* (thank you). For more vocabulary, see the Phrase Book (pp295–6).

#### Naturism

Croatia is a popular country for naturism, where it is practised freely at designated places and resorts that are outstanding for their quality and high standards. Naturism has a very long tradition in Croatia. In fact, the first vacation resort for naturists was opened in Rajska plaža (Paradise beach) on the island of Rab in 1934.

Today there are many nudist beaches that are marked "FKK" (German for "free body culture"). There are about 20 official naturist resorts offering accommodation along the Croatian coast (mainly in the form of camping). The majority are in Istria and some even have Blue Flag (clean beach) status. These places are appropriately screened, allowing quests to enjoy the absolute freedom and peace the surrounding nature has to offer. British tour operators offering naturist

holidays in Croatia include Away with Dune (formerly Dune Leisure)

#### Time

Croatia is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) in winter and two hours ahead in cummer

# Electricity

The electric current supplied is 220V 50Hz all over the country. The standard European two-pin plugs are used throughout Croatia.

# Responsible Tourism

Visitors can support local communities by shopping for local seasonal produce at markets such as the daily covered markets in Zagreb, Rijeka and Pula, the vast open-air market in Split, and many other smaller markets in towns and villages.

Visitors can buy local specialities direct from producers in various destinations, such as naški sir (sheep's cheese) on

the island of Pag. lavender oil and dried lavender on the island of Hvar pršut (prosciutto) dried figs throughout Dalmatia. tartufi (truffles) in Istria, and wine in all the major wineproducing regions (you can visit vinevards and taste their wine before purchasing).

Visitors can take part in eco-friendly activities such as hiking mountain biking sailing and rafting - a greener alternative to fuel-guzzling motorboats for example

Croatian ethical tour operators include the Makarska-based Biokovo Active Holidays who organize outdoor adventures sports, including hiking and mountain biking on Mount Biokovo and rafting down the River Cetina near Omiš and the Dubrovnik-based Adria Adventure, who specialize in sea kavaking and hiking holidays. The UK-based ethical tour operators arranging holidays in Croatia include Responsible Travel and Swim Trek



Trogir market, Dalmatia

# **Embassies and** Consulates

#### American Embassy,

Ulica Thomasa Jeffersona 2, Zagreb. **Tel** (01) 661 22

00. w zagreb. usembassv.gov

#### **Australian Embassy**

Centar Kaptol, Nova Ves 11/3rd floor, Zagreb. Tel (01) 489 12 00.

w croatia.embassy.

gov.au

#### **British Consulate** Dubrovnik

Vukovarska 22. Tel (020) 324 597.

Split

Obala Hrvatskog Narodnog Preporoda 10/ III. Tel (00 385) 21 346 007.

#### **British Embassy**

I. Lučića 4, 10000 Zagreb. Tel (01) 600 91 00.

## w gov.uk/government/ world/organisations/ british-embassy-zagreb

# Canadian Embassy

Prilaz Giure Dezelica 4. Zagreb. Tel (01 488 12 00.

#### Irish Honorary Consulate

Miramarska 23, Zagreb. Tel (01) 631 00 25.

#### Travel Safety Advice

#### Australia

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

- w dfat.gov.au
- w smartraveller.gov.au

# UK

Foreign and Commonwealth Office w gov.uk/foreigntravel-advice

US Department of State

w travel.state.gov

# Tourist Information

DIRECTORY

# w visit-croatia.co.uk

#### Croatian National **Tourist Board**

Iblerov trg 10/IV, Zagreb. Tel (01) 469 93 33.

w croatia.hr

**Ministry of Tourism** w mint.hr.hr

**Zagreb Information** w infozagreb.hr

#### Travellers with Disabilities

## Hrvatski savez udruga tielesnih invalida

Šoštarićeva 8, Zagreb. Tel (01) 481 20 04.

w hsuti.hr

**HUPT** (Croatian Paraplegic & **Tetraplegic** Association) w hupt.hr

#### Naturism

# Away with Dune Tel 01371 879 686

w awaywithdune co uk

#### Responsible Tourism

# Adria Adventure

# Tel (020) 311 545.

w kavakingcroatia. com

#### **Biokovo Active Holidays**

Tel (021) 679 655.

w biokovo.net

# Responsible Travel

Tel (01) 273 823 700 (In the UK)

w responsibletravel. com

# Swim Trek

Tel (01) 273 739 713. (In the UK) w swimtrek.

# Personal Security and Health

Croatian public health services meet the standards of those elsewhere in Europe, and in general, tourists run no serious health risks. There are no endemic diseases but tourists should take care against insect bites and over-exposure to the sun. Tap water is drinkable all over the country. In inland regions, de-mining along former lines of confrontation is not complete. Therefore, travellers should not stray from known. safe routes in these zones. The crime rate is comparatively low, and there is little street crime, although visitors should take the usual precautions in busy places to protect valuables.



A Croatian policeman with a police car.

# Police

Regular Croatian police (policiia) officers wear dark blue uniforms and keep a relatively low-profile presence. In addition, there are the seldom seen Intervention Police (who wear blue militarystyle uniforms) and the Special Police or SWAT (who wear khaki military-style uniforms). If you are a victim of crime, you should report this to the local police station and obtain a police statement.

# What to Be Aware of

The level of safety on the roads and in public places is good. and the police are deemed responsible for the protection and safety of the country's visitors as well as its citizens. Croatia has a relatively low crime rate, and violent crime is comparatively rare. If a petty theft occurs, it is more likely to happen in crowded areas such as bus and railway stations. It is highly unlikely that the police will create any problems for foreign visitors on holiday in Croatia unless, of course, the law is broken in some way. However. it is advisable to carry your identification documents, such as a passport, with you as the police have the right to ask for identification

According to an international agreement, if a tourist is held for questioning or detained for whatever reason, he or she has the right to contact a diplomatic representative of his or her country (an embassy or consulate, see p267) and receive assistance in appointing a local lawyer, preferably Englishspeaking.

Any eventual costs and the lawyer's fee are the responsibility of the accused.

#### In an Emergency

In case of emergencies, the appropriate services to call are listed in the directory opposite. For accidents or other medical emergencies, go to casualty (hitna pomoć). There are general hospitals in all the

main cities while rural towns and the islands are served by local doctors. People can be transferred by ambulance or helicopter to the nearest hospital in case of any emergency.

# Lost and Stolen Property

Precautions for avoiding theft and loss of documents and personal belongings are the same as in any other country. so use your common sense. You should avoid leaving objects of value and money unattended and keep an eve on your luggage and bags, particularly in crowded areas. Do not wear showy, expensive iewellery that could attract the wrong kind of attention.

When you travel, it is always a good idea to make a photocopy of your personal documents and keep it in a separate place: in this way it will be much easier to obtain a duplicate. In the event of loss, report the circumstances to the police as soon as possible.

#### Hospitals and Pharmacies

All the main cities have a hospital, and the standard of health care is on a par with other FU countries. For less serious problems, visit a pharmacy (ljekarna), which can be identified by the green cross above the door. Croatian pharmacists are highly qualified and can dispense medication. not usually available over the counter back home. Although



An ambulance driving past a hospital



People sunbathing on a Dalmatian beach

it is easy to find all the more common over-the-counter medicines in pharmacies without too much difficulty, it is best to carry an adequate supply of any prescription medicines you may need.

Some medicines are not known by the commercial names given to them in their country of origin, but by the active ingredients contained in them. This may cause difficulty for a pharmacist trying to comply with the request of a foreign visitor. In any event, it is useful if you can produce a legible prescription written by your own doctor as proof that vou are authorized to take a particular medicine.

Pharmacies are usually open all day (8am to 8pm) or in the morning or afternoon, depending on the day.

#### Minor Hazards

Most of the problems that visitors suffer from in Croatia are those common to tourists anywhere else.

To prevent sunstroke, you should drink lots of liquids and avoid strenuous sports or activities at the hottest time of the day. Make sure to use sunscreen creams with a high sun protection factor.

A change in diet can cause stomach upsets, which are often a nuisance but can usually be treated quickly. In Croatia there is no risk of dysentery or similar illnesses.

On the beaches and near the coast the most common problem is probably irritating insect bites, particularly from mosquitoes and it is a good idea to take some antihistamine cream and insect repellent with you

. Tick-horne diseases can he a problem in rural areas in late spring and throughout the summer. Anyone spending a lot of time outdoors should take precautions such as wearing long-sleeved tops and using insect repellent. Seek medical advice if bitten

For hikers and climbers venturing inland, there is the possibility of encountering snakes, so take the appropriate serum with you if you are planning such a trip. However, most minor ailments and disturbances can usually be avoided with a little care and common sense.

Boat travel is a common means of transport for connections between the coastal towns and cities and obviously the only means of getting to virtually all the islands. Unfortunately many people suffer from seasickness and people who are susceptible should take some kind of travel sickness pill before embarking on a sea journey. It is advisable to keep to the central areas of the boat where any pitching and rolling is felt less, and to go on deck where fresh air and a visible horizon may help.

#### Travel and Health Incurance

Foreign tourists do not pay for emergency medical services if the Health Care Convention has been signed between Croatia and the country they come from This is the case for all countries in the European Union including the UK. Ireland and Italy, and all FU citizens should carry a Furopean Health Insurance Card (FHIC), available from the UK Department of Health or from a main post office. If you come from a country that has not signed the Convention, you must pay for health services according to a standardized price list

It is however advisable to take out an insurance policy to cover medical assistance. The policy should also include repatriation. by air-ambulance, as well as the refunding of any medical expenses that are necessary. All visitors have a right to emergency medical assistance, but certain medical services must be paid for.

Activities such as diving, rock climbing and in some cases even hiking or motorcycling, are often not included in travel insurance cover, as they are regarded as dangerous activities. Check the insurance policy details: it may be necessary to pay a surcharge to cover these kinds of sports.

## DIRECTORY

# **Emergency Services**

Ambulance

Tel 194

Breakdown Service (Automobile Club) Tel 1987 w hak.hr.

Fire

Tel 193

**General Emergency** 

**Tel** 112.

Information

Tel 18981.

Police **Tel** 192.

Rescue at Sea

Tel 195

# **Banking and Currency**

The Croatian currency is the kuna, which in May 1994 took the place of the dinar. It is in fact a very old currency; coins displaying the kuna were known to be in use in Slavonia in 1256. It is not difficult to change money into kuna at bureaux de change and banks throughout the country. Visitors need to pay for everything in Croatian kuna, even though hotel room prices are (confusingly) almost always posted in euros. Although Croatia joined the European Union in 2013, it will take several years before it officially adopts the euro, if indeed it adopts it at all.

# Banks and Bureaux de Change

Money can be changed from one currency to the other in banks and authorized bureaux de change or exchange offices. Banks are usually open from Monday to Friday from 8am to 7pm and on Saturday from 8am to 1pm but times can vary, so always check in advance if possible. However, in the smaller towns, some banks may close in the middle of the day from noon to 3pm and on Saturdays they may shut a little earlier than large, city branches.

Exchange offices have more flexible timings and are open until late in the evening in tourist areas. A commission is charged on the exchange, which varies from 1 to 1.5 per cent at the exchange offices. These charges are lesser or almost non-existent if you change money at a bank.

You can also change foreign currency in post offices and tourist agencies. If possible, avoid changing money at hotels or camp sites where the exchange rates are less favourable. Do not be tempted to change money



One of the many ATMs found in all main towns and cities

at stations and ports or along the roads with people who are not authorized. Finally, if you hold on to your original receipts you can re-convert any unused kuna banknotes back to the orignal currency at the end of your stay. However, only banks offer this kind of a service

#### **ATMs**

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) are now widespread throughout the country, even in

remote villages on the islands. Not every ATM accepts all forms of credit and debit cards, so it is best to check that the logo of the card you want to use is on the machine (bankomat) before making a withdrawal. Remember to always shield the ATM machine from strangers when feeding your PIN into it. Check with your bank or credit card company about what fees and commissions will be charged on transactions made outside your home country.

#### Credit and Debit Cards

The most commonly accepted credit cards are MasterCard, American Express, Visa and Diners. Credit cards can be used in almost every shop, resort, hotel and restaurant. Of course, there are always exceptions, so check the signs on the door of the establishment to see which cards they accept. If there is no sign, ask in advance to avoid unpleasant surprises.

In the event of the loss or theft of your credit card, it is extremely important to report it immediately so that the card can be blocked. This can be

#### DIRFCTORY

# Banks, Exchange Offices and ATMs

Zagrebačka banka

w zaba.hr

Hrvatska narodna banka

#### Lost or Stolen Credit Cards

# **American Express**

Tel 44 127 369 6933.

w american express.com

#### **Diners Club**

**Tel** 44 124 447 0910.

w diners.com.hr

Eurocard–MasterCard
Tel 1 636 722 7111 (collect call).

#### ICI 1 030 722 71

**Tel** 0 800 220 111 (wait for the second dial tone, then enter 866 654 0125).



Hrvatska narodna banka in Zagreb

done by calling the relevant card's emergency number (which is usually a number providing a 24-hour service. seven days a week). Inform vour bank before departure that you are travelling so that they do not block your card due to unusual activity.

# Currency

The kuna is divided into 100 lipa (the word "lipa" means a linden tree) The Central Bank issues banknotes of 1000, 500. 200, 100, 50, 20 and 10 kuna. featuring Croatian heroes. Coins come in denominations of 5, 2 and 1 kuna, and 50, 20, 10.5.2 and 1 lina. The local abbreviation for kuna is kn. but the international abbreviation is HRK

The Croatian currency was formerly closely linked to the German mark and until 31 December 2001, prices for accommodation, especially private rooms, were always

guoted in marks. However. the mark was replaced by the euro in January 2002 when it became the common currency of the European Union The government tries to keen rates of exchange steady. which helps travellers and also helps to present an overall image of stability to potential foreign investors.

The euro is now accepted in all banks and bureaux de change

# Banknotes

The Central Rank issues hanknotes of 1000, 500 200 100 50 20 and 10 kuna Notes hear the portraits of famous Croats such as Stjepan . Radić and Josip Jelačić.



200 kuna

#### Coins

The kuna is divided into 100 lina. The coin denominations are 5, 2 and 1 kuna and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 lipa. The 20 and 50 lipa coins are silver-coloured and the 10 and 5 lipa coins are bronze-coloured.







1 lipa











50 lipa

# Communications and Media

Croatia has good communication systems and wellfunctioning public services such as the post and telecommunications. The news and information network is well organized, although most visitors (unless they speak Croatian) will face the obvious language barrier. However, foreign television programmes can be received via satellite and it is also easy to find foreign newspapers and magazines. with newsagents, although they might be available a little later than they would be at home. Internet use is also widespread in Croatia.



Public telephone booth in a Dubrovnik side-street

# International and Local Telephone Calls

Calling Croatia from abroad is very easy; after dialling the international code (00 worldwide), dial the international country code (385), followed by the area code without the initial zero (Croatia is divided administratively into counties. each with a corresponding code) and finally the number of the subscriber To telephone abroad from Croatia, dial the international code (again 00), followed by the international code of the country (for the UK it is 44), then the area code (omitting the initial zero) and finally the subscriber's number. The international codes for other English-speaking countries are as follows: the US and Canada, 1, Australia, 61. New Zealand, 64 and Ireland, 353.

When making local calls from a landline within Croatia, vou need to include the area code when dialling, unless you are

calling from within that area. There is a list of Croatian area codes in the directory on p273.

Numbers beginning with the code 060 are information services. These services can be dialled up from anywhere within Croatia, using the same code.

#### Mobile Phones

In Croatia several companies offer mobile phone services (GSM network): Tele 2, with the code 095: T-Mobile with the codes 097, 098 and 099; and Vinnet with the codes 091 and 092. The HT GSM network covers approximately 98 per cent of the country.

Check with your mobile phone service provider before you leave to see whether they have a roaming agreement with the Croatian networks.

If you expect to be in Croatia for more than a week. purchasing a local SIM card to use in your mobile phone may be worthwhile. You will need vour phone to be unlocked in order to use the new SIM card.

Keep in mind that it is illegal to use a mobile phone while you are driving

# Public Telephones

There are fewer public telephones in Croatia now. but they do still exist. Pay phones in Croatia are operated by telephone cards (telefonska kartica) that are available in units of 15, 30, 50 and 100 (1 unit = 1 kuna) and can be nurchased from tobacconists newsagents and news kiosks.

It is cheaper to call from a public phone rather than from your hotel, as hotels generally apply a supplement to any calls which are made from their rooms

#### Internet

Internet and email facilities are widely available in Croatia, and it is easy to find Internet cafés with speedy connections in most places, even on the islands.

If you want to use a laptop computer, you will find that many hotels and hostels offer free Wi-Fi to their quests. Some cities (such as Rijeka and Osijek) also have hotspots with free Wi-Fi in public spaces. Ask at the relevant local tourist offices for the exact location of these zones

#### Postal Services

The Croatian national postal company HP operates a network of post offices, with branches in all towns, and offers a wide range of services, including the sale of stamps and telephone cards, fax facilities and postal



Surfing the net at an Internet café in Dubrovnik



Typical newspaper kiosk in Valpovo

services of all kinds. If you are sending ordinary post, stamps (marke) can also be bought at newsagents (kiosk). Note that unless airmail is specifically requested postcards and letters will be sent overland

Letters and cards can be posted at post offices or the roadside vellow post boxes. The costs vary according to the type of correspondence and the destination. Post offices are open 7am-7pm Monday-Friday. and 7am-1pm on Saturday During summer months the post offices in the tourist resorts extend their opening times until 10pm.

A practical and straightforward way to receive post while on holiday is to use the poste restante service. Any correspondence sent to the following addresses will be held until it is collected by the addressee. In Zagreb, the address is Poste Restante, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia and in Split. Poste Restante, Main Post Office. 21000 Split, Croatia.



Entrance to a post office (HP) in Dubrovnik

# Newspapers and Magazines

The top-selling national daily newspapers are 24 Sata, Jutarnii List, Večernii List and Slobodna Dalmacija all in Croatian British Italian and German newspapers and magazines are usually readily available at newsstands in all the major resorts and cities. Also look out for the very informative English-language In Your Pocket bi-monthly guides, available for various destinations including Split, Dubrovnik, Rijeka, Zadar and Zagreb.

## Television and Radio

The main Croatian radio and television company is Hrvatska radiotelevizija (HRT). There are four national TV channels: HRT1. HRT2, HRT3 and HRT4, all of which broadcast foreign and domestic programmes. Other television stations are RTL RTL2 Doma and Nova TV. as well as about 20 private regional channels. Almost all programmes including films and other foreign productions are broadcast in their original language, with Croatian subtitles. The radio has daily news in both English and German, Many hotels have satellite television and hotel quests will have access to a wide range of European stations.

Croatian radio stations broadcast in Croatian only, apart from some traffic reports. On the Second Channel (at RDS-HRT2). reports on news in general are given in English, German and Italian.

#### DIRECTORY

#### Area Codes

Rielovarsko-Rilogorska: 043 Brodsko-Posavska: 035 Dubrovačko-Neretvanska: 020 Ictorcka: 052 Krapinsko-Zagorska: 049 Ličko-Seniska: 053 Karlovačka: 047 Koprivničko-Križevačka: 048 Međimurska: 040 Osiečko-Baraniska: 031 Požeško-Slavonska: 034 Primorsko-Goranska: 051 Šihanska-Kninska: 022 Sisačko-Moslavačka: 044 Splitsko-Dalmatinska: 021 Varaždinska: 042 Virovitičko-Podravska: 033 Vukovarsko-Srijemska: 032 7adarska: 023 Zagreb: 01 Zagrebačka: 01

# Useful Numbers

# Information for International Calls

Tel 11802

# International Operator

1 an ا**ح** 

# Speaking Clock

Tel 18095.

# **Directory Enquiries** in Croatia

Tel 11888

# Weather Forecast and Traffic Conditions

Tel (072) 777 777.

#### **Post Offices**

#### Dubrovnik

Vukovarska 16. Tel (020) 362 068.

### Split

Kralia Tomislava 9. Tel (021) 406 705.

# Zagreb

Jurišićeva 13. Tel (072) 303 304.

# TRAVEL INFORMATION

Most visitors take a direct flight from the UK to Zagreb, Split or Dubrovnik and there are useful internal flights between the three main airports. During the summer months, numerous charter flights operate and the smaller airports in Croatia open. Many tourists visiting the country come from nearby Germany, Italy and Austria, which are all well connected by road or sea. These visitors often use

their own transport, usually car or motorbike. A great deal has been done to develop and improve all means of transport and the country now has good connections to the rest of Europe and the world. It is also possible to get to Croatia by train, for those who prefer this form of transport – this is a much slower method, although the network is being modernized.

# Arriving by Air

The national airline company. Croatia Airlines, links Croatia's main airports with the rest of Europe. The major European destinations are Amsterdam. Athens Barcelona Frankfurt Berlin, Brussels, Copenhagen, London, Munich, Paris, Rome, Podgorica, Tel Aviv, Istanbul. Skopie, Zurich, Saraievo, Venice and Vienna

Other European airlines offering scheduled services to Croatia include British Airways (which operates both a summer and a winter service hetween London Gatwick and Dubrovnik, making Dubrovnik a year-round city break destination), and Star Alliance members Lufthansa, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Air France, TAP Portugal, Turkish Airlines, SAS Scandinavian Airlines and Swiss International Airlines. Flying time from London is 2 hours 10 minutes and from Frankfurt 1 hour 30 minutes. The no-frills airline EasyJet flies to Dubrovnik from London Gatwick and

Stansted: and to Split from Bristol London Gatwick and Stansted, Jet2.com flies to Dubrovnik from Belfast Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester and Newcastle: and to Pula and Split from Manchester Leeds and Edinburgh. Monarch flies to Dubrovnik from London Gatwick and Birmingham Wizz Air flies to Split from Luton airport; and **Ryanair** flies to the cities of Osiiek, Pula and Riieka from Stansted, and to Zadar from Stansted and Fast Midlands airport

From Dublin Aer Lingus flies direct to Dubrovnik and Pula. Since there are no direct flights from the US or Canada to Croatia, travellers will need to change at one of the main European hubs such as London, Rome or Frankfurt. and then take a further connecting flight to Croatia. There is a daily flight to Zagreb from Rome Fiumicino, for example, as well as five flights a week to and from Split, and two flights a week to and from Dubrovnik.

There are also flights to Zagreb from Australia and New Zealand that have stopovers at major Asjan and European airports.

#### Air Fares

The air fares on scheduled flights to Croatia vary according to the airline and the time of year. Fares tend to be higher in the summer. From the UK there are regular scheduled flights from Gatwick and Heathrow to Zagreb with connections to Pula Dubrovnik, Rijeka and Split, as well as direct flights from Gatwick to Dubrovnik There are charter flights to Croatia from a wide range of UK regional airports during the summer months (Mav-September). Note that it is possible to get discounts on ticket prices by booking them through price comparison websites such as Kayak, Zugu, Momondo and Skyscanner.

# Transport from Airport to Town

Croatia has three main airports. Zagreb airport is 15 km (9 miles) from the centre of the city and is connected by a bus service to the central bus station in Držićeva; the journey takes about 25 minutes and runs from the city to the airport from 4:30 or 5am to 8pm and in the opposite direction from 7am to 8pm (or before and after Croatia Airlines flight departures and arrivals). The airport at Split is



Croatia Airlines plane at Split airport

24 km (15 miles) from the centre of the city and is also connected by a regular bus service, which runs to the seafront promenade, in front of the ferry port. The journey takes about 30 minutes Dubrovnik airport is 22 km (14 miles) from the city and is connected by a regular bus service, running to the main bus station, with a stop at Pile Gate which is just outside the fortified Old Town The journey time for this service is about 20 minutes

# Package Deals

A number of tour operators offer package holidays where the price includes flights (usually charter flights) and accommodation There are also several UK tour operators offering package holidays such as Light Blue Travel, Balkan Holidavs and Thomson Holidays. Saga Holidays organizes tours for the 50-plus age group. Adriatic Holidays offer sailing holidays including 7- and 14-day trips along the Dalmatian coast taking in a number of the surrounding islands and Dubrovnik, Split. Zadar and Pula

#### Arriving by Train

You can travel from London to Zagreb by train, via Paris, Milan and Venice - a trip of around 30 hours. An alternative route goes via Brussels and Liubliana in Slovenia. You can also travel from London to Paris, then take an overnight train from Paris to Bologna, followed by a train to the Italian port of Ancona, from where there are regular overnight ferries to Split. Rail Europe and eTrains4U

can supply information.

Connections from other European cities include the Intercity Munich-Zagreb (which takes 9 hours); the Eurocity "Mimara", which covers the Frankfurt-Munich-Salzburg-Liubliana-Zagreb route (12 hours), and the Intercity "Croatia" taking the route Vienna-Maribor-Zagreb (6 hours 30 minutes). Vienna-Rijeka takes 8 hours.



Mainline passenger bus, Euroline

There are rail connections from Italy too From Venice there is a direct sleeper train daily to Zagreb. There are regular trains to Zagreb from Belgrade (four a day: 6 hours 15 minutes) and Budapest (two a day: 6 hours).

The headquarters of the Croatian Railways (Hrvatske Želieznice) is in Zagreb.



Road signage at the Slovenian border

#### Arriving by Coach

Croatia is also accessible to other countries by coach. International coaches connect Croatia with the bordering states and also with France. Switzerland, Germany, Austria. Slovakia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro.

From Germany there are almost daily services from Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Frankfurt, Mannheim, Munich and Stuttgart to Zagreb and the coastal cities, covering the stretch from Rijeka to Split.

Many Italian cities such as Bologna, Florence, Milan, Rome and Trieste are also connected to Zagreb by coach. The main Zagreb bus station is called Autobusni Kolodvor Zagreb in the capital. The SAF Autoservizio Friuli Venezia Giulia runs services four times a day in the summer and twice in winter from Trieste to Pula in Istria From Trieste vou can also get to Rijeka by coach which runs four times a day

Furolines run a service from the UK to Croatia. Buses depart from London's Victoria station to arrive in Zagreb 32 hours later, with a change in Frankfurt, Germany.

# Arriving by Road

Travelling to Croatia by car (or by motorbike) is popular with tourists coming from the neighbouring countries. There are six main border crossings between Croatia and Hungary, 23 frontier points between Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, eight frontier points between Croatia and Serbia and two between Croatia and Montenegro.

Traffic coming overland from Italy enters Croatia via border crossings with Slovenia, all classified as international and open 24 hours a day, all year round. Rabuiese-Muggia, towards Savudrija, is the crossing point for Istria: Basovizza-Pesek, for Rijeka and Dalmatia; Fernetti-Villa Opicina, for those going towards Zagreb.

People driving to Croatia need to carry a valid driving licence, the car's log book (if appropriate) and a green card. For insurance purposes, on entering the country, any prior damage to the car which has not yet been repaired must be declared.

# Arriving by Sea

Croatia's main international ferry connections are with Italy via the ports of Ancona, Bari. Venice and Trieste. The main Croatian maritime company is Jadrolinija (see p279) which runs services between Ancona and Split (three times a week). The crossing takes nine hours Ancona-7adar runs three times a week an 8-hour journey and Bari-Dubrovnik runs three times a week in winter and six times a week in summer (taking 10 hours by night: 7-and-a-half hours by day for the journey). In peak season (mid-July to mid-August) the Ancona-Split ferry also makes a stop at Stari Grad on the island of Hyar. Blue Line is another Croatian company running regular 10-hour ferry services between Ancona and Split, and seasonal ferry services between Ancona and Hvar and Ancona and Vis Ferries are well equipped with restaurants. bars and duty free shops.



Symbol of the maritime

company Jadroliniia

One of the ships that connect Croatian ports with the rest of the Adriatic

Venezia Lines operate in the Northern Adriatic and link the northern Adriatic coasts of Italy and Croatia, though they run in summer only (April-

September). Regular catamaran lines run between JADROLINIIA Venice and the Istrian towns

of Poreč, Rovini, Pula and Rabac, and also between Venice and Mali Lošini

on the island of Lošini. Trieste

Lines also run a fast catamaran in the Northern Adriatic. connecting Trieste, Rovini and Pula from late June to mid-September. The Italian ferry

company SNAV runs a fast daily Croatia let catamaran service between the cities of Ancona and

Split from mid-June to late September (the journey time being 5 hours).

# DIRECTORY Croatian National

# Suite 4C, Elsinore House, 77 Fulham Palace Road

**Tourist Board** 

London W6 8 IA Tel (020) 8563 7979

(from LIK)

w croatia.hr

# **Arriving by Air**

#### Aer Lingus

Tel 0333 004 5000 (from LIK)

w aerlingus.com

## **British Airways**

Tel 0344 493 0787 (UK).

w britishairways.com

#### **Croatia Airlines**

Tel 0844 371 0310 (UK): (01) 667 65 55 and (072) 500 505 (in Croatia).

w croatiaairlines.com

#### **EasyJet**

Tel 0330 365 5000 (UK).

w easyjet.com

#### Jet2.com

Tel 0333 300 0042 (UK).

w jet2.com

#### Monarch

Tel 0333 003 0100 (UK)

w monarch.co.uk

#### Rvanair

Tel 0871 246 0000 (UK).

w rvanair.com

#### Wizz Air

Tel 0911 752 2257 (UK).

w wizzair.com

#### Package Holidays

# **Adriatic Holidays**

Tel 01865 339 481 (UK).

w adriaticholidays.

co uk

#### **Balkan Holidays**

Tel 0207 543 5555 (UK).

w balkanholidays. co.uk

# **Light Blue Travel**

Tel 01223 568 904 (UK).

w lightbluetravel. co.uk

# Saga Holidays

Tel 0800 096 0074 (UK).

w travel.saga.co.uk

# **Thomson Holidays**

Tel 020 3451 2688 (UK).

w thomson.co.uk

### Arriving by Coach

#### Dubrovnik bus station

Tel (060) 305 070 (Cro).

w libertasdubrovnik.hr

#### Furalines

Tel 0044 871 781 8178.

w eurolines.com

# Split bus station

Tel (060) 327 777 (Cro). w ak-split.hr

**Trieste bus station** 

# Tel 0039 040 425 020

w autostazione trieste.it

# Zagreb bus station

Tel (060) 313 333 and (01) 611 278 9 (Cro).

w akz.hr

# **Arriving by Train**

#### **Croatian Railways**

Tel (060) 333 444 (Cro).

w hzpp.hr

#### eTrains4U

Unit 25, Tilevard Studios. Tilevard Road. London N7 9AH.

Tel 020 7619 1083 (UK).

w etrains4u.com

# Rail Europe

193 Piccadilly, London W1J 9EU. Tel 0844 848 4064

w raileurope.co.uk

# Arriving by Sea

# **Blue Line**

Tel (356) 2122 3299. w blueline-ferries.com

## SNAV

Ancona, Italy,

Tel 0039 071 207 6116.

## w snav.it **Trieste Lines**

Viale Miramarer 9. Trieste.

Tel 0039 0923 873 813.

# w triestelines.it

Venezia Lines Trg Matije Gupca 11,

Poreč. Tel (052) 422 896.

w venezialines.com

# **Getting Around Croatia**

The transport system within Croatia is reasonably efficient. particularly if you are travelling by road or by sea. Connections between the mainland and the islands are excellent, and thanks to an extensive bus network, even smaller, lesser known towns can be easily reached. Although using air travel to get around the country is not that common. domestic flights link the major towns. Travelling by train is fine only if you have plenty of time as the rail network is small due to the mountainous terrain, and is in need of modernization. Train travel takes much longer than the time it takes to cover the same distance by road.



Biking in the mountainous terrain of Croatia

#### Green Travel

In Croatia, when it comes to green travel, the most positive moves have been seen in Zagreb where, as of 2007, the ZET (Zagreb Municipal Transit System) started using bio-fuels in public transport vehicles. Zagreb has a taxi company called Fko Taxi that markets itself as "low-emissions" and there are now marked cycle lanes in parts of the city, making it a bicycle-friendly destination.

Cycling in rural areas is growing in popularity, and cycling holidays are now available in Istria and parts of Dalmatia (mountain biking in the latter case). Hiking is also popular, with both Croatians and foreign visitors. The best seasons for hiking are spring and autumn. Organized hiking holidays are also available.

Last but not least, sailing is one of the most environmentally friendly ways of exploring the Croatian coast, using the power of wind as opposed to that of a motor.

# Domestic Flights

Croatia Airlines runs regular connections between the three major airports in the country – Zagreb, Split and Dubrovnik, There are also connections between these airports and other secondary airports, such as the airports at Osijek, Zadar, Rijeka (on the island of Krk). Pula and Brač, which is open only in the summer months.

# Travelling by Car

Cars drive on the right in Croatia and safety helts should be worn in both the front and back seats Children under 12 must sit in the back

The speed limits are 50 km/h (30 mph) in towns, 80 km/h (50 mph) outside built-up areas, and 130 km/h (80 mph) on the motorways. Cars towing caravans must not exceed 80 km/h (50 mph).

Road signs are generally more or less identical to those found in the rest of Europe.

Note that it is illegal to drive when drunk over the 0.5 per cent limit

Service stations are open daily from 7am to 7 or 8pm, but in summer they are open till 10pm. On the main roads in the larger towns and cities and on major international routes service stations are open 24 hours a day. All the usual petrol types are available: Eurosuper 95, Eurosuper 98 and Eurodiesel.

# Roads and Tolls

As part of a vast programme of improvements to the country's infrastructure, the national

motorway (autocesta) network is being extended, necessitating the building of several impressive viaducts and tunnels. Croatia's motorways are now regarded as among the most modern and safest in Europe The A1 motorway connecting Zagreb and Ploče is the longest in Croatia, spanning 480 km (300 miles). There are plans to extend the motorway further down the coast to Dubrovnik

On certain stretches of motorway drivers pay a toll (by either cash or credit card): Zagreb–Karlovac, Zaprešić, Krapina, Varaždin-Goričan, Zagreb-Oprisavci, Rijeka-Delnice, Zagreb-Split, There is also a toll to pay for the bridge to the island of Krk and the Učka Tunnel

# Parking

As elsewhere in Europe, car parking is an ever-increasing problem in most cities. Some hotels have parking spaces reserved for quests. If you are travelling by car it is worth checking this in advance. Likewise, in many smaller coastal towns, the seafront promenades are closed to traffic through the summer season, severely reducing parking spaces.

Where indicated, a parking ticket must be clearly displayed inside the windscreen. If you park in a no-parking area, vour vehicle can be forcibly removed by officials.



Town traffic in the charming city of Osijek

## Breakdown Assistance and Traffic Information

Emergency road services are provided by the local Automobile Club HAK which can be reached 24 hours a day all year round by dialling 1987 (preceded by 003851 for calls from outside Croatia). The service provides repairs (a charge will apply) on the spot or in a garage (subject to transport), the removal of damaged cars and transport up to 100 km (62 miles) distance.

The HAK also provides useful information on road and maritime traffic, motorway tolls, any temporary diversions, the prices of petrol, ferry times. possible alternative routes and general assistance for those travelling by car. Their website provides useful information and links

#### Road Conditions/Hazards

Croatian roads are of a decent standard, comparable to those in most FU countries, while the newly constructed motorways are superior to most However, the picturesque Magistrala (coastal highway). which runs down the Adriatic from Rijeka to Dubrovnik, twists and turns and can be extremely slippery when wet. On the islands and in rural areas, the roads may be narrow and poorly surfaced.

#### Car Hire

Car rental agencies can be found in all the main towns and cities, airports and holiday resorts. A valid driving licence is required and the driver must be at least 21 years old. Besides the well-known large multinational rent-a-car companies such as Avis, Budget and Hertz, there are many local independent companies as well.

The larger companies, however, offer the option of leaving the car in a different town from the collection point. Not all rental companies are able to offer this flexibility and there is always an extra charge for this service.



Entrance to the main railway station in Zagreb, Glavni kolodyor

#### Trains

Although the railway network in Croatia is slowly being modernized, travelling by train is not very popular except in the area around Zagreb, However, all the main Croatian towns and cities are linked by rail with the exception of Dubrovnik, where there is no railway station at all.

The main railway station is in the capital city (Glavni Kolodyor Zagreb). There are trains to Rijeka with connections to the Istrian towns: to Split with a branch line for 7adar and Šibenik, serving the Dalmatian coast: to Osiiek, to the east and Varaždin, to the north.

The following journey times can be expected: 4 hours for Zagreb to Rijeka, 6 hours from Zagreb to Split (or 8 hours 30 min by night), 2 hours for Zagreb-Varaždin, and 4 hours 30 minutes for Zagreb-Osiiek, Express services operate on some routes. Croatian Railways (Hrvatske Želieznice) has its main office in Zagreb (seep276).



Travelling by coach to the city of Dubrovnik

# Ruses

Ruses are a convenient means of transport. The national bus service covers an extensive network with numerous connections and destinations although tickets will be more expensive than on trains

. Suitcases and larger rucksacks will need to go into the luggage storage compartments below the bus and incur a surcharge.

Services are divided into "intercity" (direct connections between the larger cities) and the regional services (with connections between the smaller towns and the main cities)

There are daily connections between the towns and cities of Croatia and night buses cover the longer routes.

For information, go to the local bus station (autobusni kolodvor) and consult the timetable. Vozi syaki dan indicates the daily services, while ne vozi nedieliom ni praznikom shows which services do not run on Sundays and public holidays. The main bus station in Zagreb is the Autobusni kolodvor Zagreb in Zagreb the main station in Split is Autobusni kolodvor Split.

#### Coach Tours

The travel agency Atlas offers a choice of coach tours, such as the 8-day escorted "Highlights of Croatia" which includes Dubrovnik, Split, Trogir, Zadar, Zagreb and Plitvice and the 10-day "UNESCO Heritage Sites and National Parks of Croatia". Atlas also runs regular 1-day

trins from Dubrovnik to nearby destinations such as Ston and Korčula Mostar (in Bosnia-Herzegovina) and the River Tara (in Montenegro).

#### Island Forrios

The majority of ferries and catamarans connecting the mainland and the islands are run by the state-owned company, Jadroliniia, These ferries can transport both nassengers and vehicles

The Croatian ferry network is divided into five districts. In the Riieka district, Cres and Lošini are connected to the mainland by the Valhiska-Merag and Brestova-Porozina routes There is also a ferry running from Rijeka to Mali Lošini, with stops at Cres, Uniie and Susak en route. The island of Rab is connected to the coast by the Stinica-Mišniak route and with the island of Krk by the Lopar-Valbiska route. Finally, the island of Pag is connected to the coast by the Prizna-Žiglien route. while Novalia on Pag is connected to Rijeka with a ston at Rah Town en route

In the district of 7adar there are connections to the cities of Preko, on the island of Ugljan,

Bribini and Zaglav, on the island of Dugi Otok and from Biograd to Tkon on the island of Pasman

In the district of Sibenik the town is connected to the islands of Zlarin and Prvić

In the Solit district there are connections between Solit and the islands of Brač (Supetar) Korčula (Vela Luka). Hvar (to Starigrad), Šolta (Rogač), Vis (to the port of the same name) and Lastovo (to Libli). There are also connections between Makarska and Sumartin (island of Brač) between Ploče and Troani on the Peliešac peninsula, between Orebić and Dominče (on the island of Korčula) and between Drvenik and Sućuraj (island of Hyar)

Finally, in the district of Dubrovnik, the main connection is between Dubrovnik and the island of Mliet (Sobra), while there are also small ferries running between Dubrovnik and the Flaphiti islands of Koločep, Lopud and Šipan.

# Ferry Frequency

Ferry services run frequently in the high season (July and August), but are significantly reduced outside the summer months. On some short routes

such as Stinica-Mišniak and Drvenik-Sućurai, ferries sail nonstop so as to cope with the long queues that tend to form in the middle of the day

For those travelling without a car or motorbike high-speed catamarans connect Split to the surrounding islands of Brač. Hvar, Vis. Korčula and Lastovo with the most frequent services from June to September The crossing times range from 45 minutes to Hyar to 2 hours 30 mins to Lastovo

In addition to Jadrolinija. there are several small private companies that operate certain routes. G & V Line runs catamarans from Dubrovnik to Mliet and from 7adar to several small nearby islands. Liniiska nacionalna plovidba runs catamarans from Split to Brač and Šolta, and from Pula to Zadar (summer only) as well as ferries from Valhiska (on Krk) to Lopar (on Rab) and from Drvenik (on the mainland) to Dominča (on Korčula). Miatours runs hydrofoils from 7adar to the nearby islands while Rapska plovidba runs ferries from Stinica (on the mainland) to Mišniak (on Pag), and from Rab Town (on Rab) to Lun (on Pag).

# **Airports**

#### Brač

**Tel** (021) 559 711

w airport-brac.hr

#### Dubrovnik

Tel (020) 773 100.

w airport-dubrovnik.hr

# Osiiek

Tel (060) 339 339.

w osijek-airport.hr

#### Pula

Tel (060) 308 308.

w airport-pula.hr

#### Riieka

Tel (051) 841 222.

w rijeka-airport.hr

#### Split

Tel (021) 203 506.

w split-airport.hr

#### 7adar

Tel (023) 205 800

w zadar-airport.hr

#### Zagreb

Tel (060) 320 320.

w zagreb-airport.hr

#### Driving

#### HAK

Tel 1987. Tel (072) 777 777 (traffic information).

#### **Car Rental**

#### Avis

Tel (01) 467 36 38.

w avis.com.hr

#### **Budget**

Tel (062) 300 331.

w budget.hr

# DIRECTORY Hertz

**Tel** (072) 727 277

w hertz.hr

#### Rucas

#### Autobusni kolodvor Zagreb

Information

Tel (060) 313 333.

w akz.hr

#### Autobusni kolodvor Split

Information

**Tel** (060) 327 777. w ak-split.hr

# **Coach Tours**

#### Atlas

Izidora Kršnjavog 1, Zagreb.

Tel (01) 241 56 11.

w atlas-croatia.com

# **Ferries**

Jadroliniia Riva 16. Rijeka.

Tel (051) 666 111.

#### w iadroliniia.hr

# G&VIine

Tel (020) 313 119.

w gv-line.hr

# Linijska nacionalna plovidba

**Tel** (021) 352 527.

w Inp.hr

# Miatours

Tel (023) 254 300.

w miatours.hr

#### Rapska plovidba

Tel (051) 724 122.

w rapska-plovidba.hr

# **Getting Around Zagreb**

The city of Zagreb has developed a good, efficient transport network which, by means of trams, buses and a funicular railway connecting the Lower and Upper Towns, ensures good connections between all the central and suburban districts. Trams run at regular intervals and there are some night services also, Gradec, the Old Town, has many areas which are pedestrianized and closed to ordinary traffic. making this a pleasant, pollution-free zone to stroll around. There is no underground system in Zagreb.



White facade of St. Catherine's Church. Upper Town, Zagreb

# Walking

Zagreb is a very large city and visitors will need to use some form of public transport to get around. However, the best way to visit the centre, that is the areas of Kaptol and Gradec (together these are known as Gornii Grad or Upper Town). is to walk there. Walking is especially rewarding in the old centre of Zagreb with its venerable churches and imposing buildings.

It is a good idea to equip vourself with a map of the city before setting off. Maps can be obtained from any tourist office. If you are lost and need assistance, you can always ask the locals for directions. They are generally friendly and helpful to tourists, although there may be a barrier to understanding if you are not familiar with the Croatian language: this is where your map may prove useful.

#### Trams

The company that runs the capital's public transport is the Zagrebački Električni Tramvaj, known as **ZET**. The network of electric trams is efficient with frequent services covering a wide area.

A total of 15 tram routes run during the day (starting at around 4am and ending at midnight) and four lines run at night (midnight to 4am).

The routes operating during the day are:

- 1 Zapadni kolodvor-Borongai:
- 2 Črnomerec–Savišće:
- 3 Liublianica–Žitniak:
- 4 Savski most-Dubec 5 Jarun – Kvaternikov tro:
- 6 Črnomerec-Sonot
- 7 Savski most\_Dubrava:
- 8 Mihalievac Zapruđe:
- 9 Liublianica Borongai:
- 11 Črnomerec-Dubec 12 Liublianica-Dubrava
- 13 Žitniak– Kvaternikov trg:
- 14 Mihalievac-Zapruđe:
- 15 Mihaljevac-Dolje;
- 17 Prečko-Borongai.

All the lines run frequently during the day with intervals of 6 to 10 minutes between trams depending on whether it is a weekday or public holiday. On Sundays and other holidays tram numbers 3 and 8 do not run

The four tram lines that run at night pass every 20 to 40 minutes on these useful routes:

- 31 Črnomerec-Savski most
- 32 Prečko-Borongai:
- 33 Dolje–Savišće; and
- 34 Liublianica-Dubec.

The main hub for tram stops is Tra bana Jelačića, where seven different tram routes intersect

#### Buses

There is an intricate network of bus connections with numerous routes branching out to the various termini: Britanski trg. Jandrićeva, Jankomir, Savski most, Ljubljanica, trg Mažuranića, Črnomerec, Mandaličina, Zaprešić, Kaptol, Petrova, Svetice, Dubrava, Kvaternikov trg. Glavni kolodvor. Žitniak, Sesvete, Borongai, Mihaljevac and Velika Gorica.

# Tickets

Tickets for trams and buses can be bought on board all buses and trams, and from newsagents or kiosks. The basic ticket is for a single journey. It must be punched in the machine as soon as you get on board and is valid for 90 minutes from that time. Tickets cost 10 kuna each. There is also a one-day ticket that costs 40 kuna, a good idea if you intend to make various trips



One of many tram lines serving the entire city

during the day (these tickets are valid until 4am on the following day) Monthly season tickets are also available. A useful website is www.infozagreb.hr. Travelling without a ticket is nunishable with a fine of 250 kuna

#### **Funicular Railway**

An interesting method of transport is the uspiniača, a steep funicular railway that has been in operation since 1890. At 66 m (216 ft), this is one of the shortest climbs in the world and takes a little less than a minute to climb up from the Lower Town to the Upper Town, arriving close to the Lotrščak tower. Departures are from Tomićeva street, right in the centre, and the cable cars leave every 10 minutes from 6:30am to 10pm (midnight in summer). The price of a single ticket is 4 kuna



Funicular railway connecting the Lower and Upper Towns

### Cable Car

The Žičara is a cable car that connects Zagreb with Sljeme, the highest peak in the Mount Medvednica range, in a journey time of 20 minutes. The system has been in operation since 1963: however: it is currently closed for renovation as a new cable car is planned. Until this has been completed buses will connect Zagreb with Sljeme.



Taxis readily available in all the big cities of Croatia

In Zagreb, as in any other large city taxis can be found readily There are several small private companies, such as Eko Taxi (a fleet of hybrid vehicles): the long-established and experienced Radio Taxi Zagreb: and Taxi Cammeo with its smart uniformed drivers. All of their vehicles are licensed with meters on board. Taxi fares varv from company to company. but you can expect to pay 10 kuna as the basic starting rate and then 5 kuna for every kilometre of your journey.

#### Car Rental

In the capital, it is also possible to rent a car by contacting one of the main car rental companies such as **Budget**, **Hertz** and Avis. Assistance while you are on the road is provided by the Croatian Automobile Club, which can also offer

advice on routes (see pp.278-9).

#### Cycle Hire/Bike Tours

Being fairly flat and even, Zagreb is a bicycle-friendly city. There is a network of clearly marked bicycle lanes connecting most of the main attractions, except for the medieval quarter of Gornii Grad, There are several companies offering bikes for hire in the city centre, and some companies, such as Zagreb by Bike, also arrange

guided tours by bicycle. There is a public bike-sharing system as well. Visit www.nextbike.hr for more information.

# DIRECTORY

#### Trams

#### 7ET

Tel (01) 365 15 55 (060) 100 001

#### w zet.hr

#### Taxis

#### Fko Taxi

Tel 1414 and (060) 77 77.

w ekotaxi.hr

## Radio Taxi Zagreb

Tel 1717

w radiotaxizagreb.com

#### Taxi Cammeo Zagreb

**Tel** 1212

w taxi-cammeo.hr

#### Car Rental

#### Avis

Oreskoviceva 21, Zagreb.

Tel (01) 467 36 38.

w avis.com.hr

#### **Budget**

Radnička 45, Zagreb.

Tel (062) 300 331.

w budget.hr

Vukotinovićeva 4, Zagreb.

Tel (072) 727 277.

w hertz.hr

#### **Bike Tours**

# Zagreb by Bike

Meeting point: Trg bana Josipa Jelačića 15 (in the backvard). Zagreb.

Tel (098) 188 33 44.

w zagrebbybike.com

# General Index

Page numbers in **bold** refer to main entries

Abbess Castle (Split) 125 Abbey Treasury (Korčula) 138-9 Adam and Eve (Albertinelli) 171 Admission prices 265 Ager (Hvar) 131 Aimone of Savov 44 Air travel 274-5, 276, 277, 279 Albert (German painter) 68 Albertinelli, Mariotto Adam and Eve 171 Aleši, Andrija 24, 27 Cathedral of St James (Šibenik) 110.111 Cathedral of St Lawrence (Trogir) 114 115 Alexander, King 44 Alexander III. Pope 84, 94 Alexander the Great 33 Aliahieri, Nicolò 159 Ambulances 269 Amphitheatre (Pula) 51, 64-5. 86-7, 255, 257 Anastasia, St 96 Anastasius, St 118, 119 Andreotti, Paolo 151 Andrew II, King of Hungary 39 Topusko Toplice 178 Varaždin 206 and Zrinski dynasty 181 Andrew III, King of Hungary 40 Andrijić, Marko 138 Angelini, N 177 Animals, travel documents 264 Arch of the Sergians (Pula) 62 Archaeological museums of Istria (Pula) 63 Split 125 Zadar 95 Zagreb 12, 168-9 Archbishop's Palace (Zagreb) 158-9 Architecture 26-7 Arpad, King 38 Arpad dynasty 40 Arsenal (Hvar) 132 Art and artists 24-5 Art Pavilion (Zagreb) 168 Atelier Kožarić 169 ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) 270 Attila 178 Augustinčić, Antun 24 Antun Augustinčić Gallery (Klaniec) 215 birthplace 215 Mirogoj Cemetery (Zagreb) 169 Modesty 159 monument to Tito 214 World War II monument (Batina) Augustus, Emperor 34, 35, 178 Aurelian, Emperor 34, 35 Autumn in Croatia 30-31

Avars 36

R&Rs 224 Babino Polje (Mljet) 143 Rahonić family 179 Badiia **141** Rakar 81 festivals 29 Rale (Valle) 59 festivals 30 Balianska Noć (Bale) 30 Balka, Miroslav 169 Banking 270-71 Ranknotes 271 Bannfy family 209 Baptistry of St. John (Split) 120 Baranja see Slavonia and Baranja Rarban 66 festivals 30 Barbarian invasions 36 Bargaining 265 Baroque architecture 27 Baroque Evenings in Varaždin 30 Bašić, Nikola 96 Raška 81 Bassano, Antonio da 56 Bassano, Leandro da 131, 133, 153 Bastl, Viekoslav 167 The Bather (Renoir) 166 Batina 193 Batone 34, 35 Battahvany family 218 Reaches Rrač 126-7, 144-5 Crikvenica 82 Gradac 135 Jelsa (Hvar) 131 Lonar 85 Makarska 134 naturism 266-7 Suni 153 Bedekovčina 215 Beer 236 Bela III. King 206 Bela IV, King 38, 39 Jastrebarsko 176 Pag Town 104 Požega 188 Zagreb 155, 164 Bela Nedeja (Kastav) 31 Belec 217 Bellini, Gentile 115, 116 Bellini Giovanni St Augustine and St Benedict 171 Benetović, Martin 133 Berislavić-Grabarski counts 189 Bernard, Ban of Croatia 181 Bernardino of Parma 137 Bicvcles 260, 277, 281 Big Fountain of Onofrio (Dubrovnik) 149 Big Lake (Veliko Jezero, Mljet) Bilie 193 hotels 231 Birds Kopački Rit Nature Park 49,

Lonjsko Polje Nature Park 180

Plitvice Lakes National Park 88

Riševo 13 129 Bishop's Palace (Križevci) 219 Biskupija 37, 112 Bizovac 187 200 Bielovar 219 Blaca Hermitage (Brač) 127 Blaise. St 148, 151 Blaise (Blaž) of Trogir 116, 138-9 Rlato 140 Roats ferries 276, 279 Kornati Islands 101 sailing 258-9, 261 seasickness 269 Bogdanović, Bogdan 179 Bogišić, Baltazar 153 Bogomili 188 Bokanić, Trifun 115 Bol (Brač) 127 Boliun 71 Bollé Hermann Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Zagreb) 158 Church of the Holy Trinity (Križevci) 219 Mirogoi Cemetery (Zagreb) 169 Museum of Arts and Crafts (Zagreb) 166 SS Cyril and Methodius (Zagreb) 165 Sanctuary of St Mary of Bistrica (Marija Bistrica) 215 Rombelles, Marko, Count 209 Bonino of Milan Abbey Treasury (Korčula) 139 Cathedral of St Domnius (Split) Cathedral of St James (Šibenik) Dominican Monastery (Dubrovnik) St Barbara (Šibenik) 108 St Mark (Korčula) 138 Boschetus, Juan 132 Bosnia-Herzegovina 136 Botanical Garden of the Faculty of Science (Zagreb) 167 Botanical gardens see Parks and gardens Botticelli, Sandro 171 Božidarević Nikola 32 153 Brač 13, 126-7, 140, 144-5 airport 279 hotels 228 map 126 restaurants 240-41 Braće Radić Square (Split) 124 Branimir, Duke 26, 38 Branislav Dešković Gallery (Brač) Brass Gate (Split) 120-21 Breakdown services 269, 278, 279 Bribir counts 39 Brijuni National Park 23, 60-61 Brlić-Mažuranić, Ivana 189 Brođanci 200 factivale 30

Bradski Stuppik	Castles and fortifications (cont.)	Churches (cont.)
Brodski Stupnik restaurants 247	Ozalj 177	Church of the Assumption of Mary
Brodsko Kolo (Slavonski Brod) 28–9	Pula <b>62–3</b>	(Omišali) 81
Bučevski, Epaminondas 165	Ružica grad (Orahovica) 187, 201	Church of the Holy Cross (Križevci)
Budget travel 266	Seven Castles (Split) 125	219
Budislavić, Ivan 115	Šibenik 109	Church of the Holy Cross (Osijek)
Budrišić, Magdalena 85	Ston 137	<b>194</b> , 197
Buffalini, Andrea 151	Trakošćan 210-11, 212-13	Church of the Holy Cross, of St
Buie see Buje	Trsat Castle (Rijeka) 73	Anselm and of St Ambrose (Nin)
Building of the Guard (Osijek) 196	Varaždin 205, <b>206</b>	26, 102
Buje (Buie) 54	Veliki Tabor 214	Church of the Most Holy
festivals 30	Castropola family 66	Redeemer (Otavice) 112
Bukovac, Vlaho 125, 153, 166	Cathedral Treasury (Dubrovnik) 146,	Euphrasian Basilica (Poreč) 29, 48,
Gundulić Imagining Osman 168	151	<b>56-7</b> , 78-9
Bulgars 36	Cathedrals	Holy Trinity (Karlovac) 177
Bulić, Frane 118	Cathedral of the Assumption	Holy Trinity (Varaždin) <b>207</b>
Bunić, Župan 137	(Varaždin) 206	Immaculate Conception (Nova
Bureaux de change 270	Cathedral of the Assumption of	Gradiška) 188
Buses <b>278</b> , 279	the Blessed Virgin Mary (Zagreb)	Madonna of Jerusalem (Trški Vrh)
in Zagreb 280–81	12, <b>158</b>	211
Bust of a Woman (Meštrović) 190	Dubrovnik 12, <b>151</b>	Our Lady of Snow (Cavtat) 153
Buvina, Andrija <b>24</b> Buzet 70	Pula <b>62</b> St. Apastasia (Zadar) 26, 03, <b>06</b>	St Anastasia (Samobor) 176
hotels 226	St Anastasia (Zadar) 26, 92, <b>96</b>	St Barbara (Šibenik) 108
	St Anselm (Nin) 102	St Blaise (Dubrovnik) 12, 146, <b>151</b>
restaurants 238 Byzantium 36–7, 38, 51	St Domnius (Split) <b>123</b> St James (Šibenik) 27, <b>110–11</b>	St Blaise (Vodnjan) 59 St Catherine (Zagreb) 161, <b>165</b>
byzantiam 50 7, 50, 51	St Lawrence (Trogir) 114–15	St Chrysogonus (Zadar) <b>94–5</b>
C	St Mark (Korčula) 26, 138	SS Cyril and Methodius (Zagreb)
Cable cars	St Mary (Rab) 52, <b>84</b>	160, <b>165</b>
Dubrovnik 12, 152	St Peter (Đakovo) 190	St Dominic (Split) 120
Zagreb 281	St Stephen (Hvar) 132	St Dominic (Trogir) 117
Čađavica 200	St Vitus (Rijeka) 72	St Donat (Zadar) 97
Caesar, Julius 34	see also Churches	St Francis (Požega) 184
Čakovec <b>208–9</b>	Cava, Onofrio de la 149, 151	St Francis (Pula) <b>62</b>
festivals 28	Caves	St Francis (Rab) <b>85</b>
restaurants 248	Paklenica National Park 103	St Francis (Šibenik) <b>108</b>
Callido, Gaetano 54	Vis 129	St Francis (Split) 124
Camping sites <b>224</b> , 225	Cavtat 153	St Francis (Zagreb) <b>159</b>
Capogrosso-Kavanjin family 124	hotels 228	St George (Lovran) 68, 69
Caporali, Bartolomeo Virgin with Child and St Francis	restaurants 241	St Helen (Čakovec) 208–9
and St Bernard 170	Cebej, Anton 189 Celje, Count of 210	St Ivan Kapistran (Ilok) 191 St James (Osijek) <b>195</b>
Carnival (Lastovo) 31	Celts 33	St Jerome (Štrigova) 209
Carnival of Rijeka 31	Cemeteries	St John the Baptist (Trogir) <b>116</b>
Carnival of the Riviera (Opatija) 31	Mirogoj Cemetery (Zagreb)	St John the Baptist (Varaždin) <b>206–7</b>
Carpaccio, Vittore 95, 139	13, 169	St Mark (Hvar Town) 133
St Sebastian 171	Central Croatia 173–81	St Mark (Zagreb) 12, 154, 161, <b>164</b>
Cars	food and drink235	St Mary (Lepoglava) 210
breakdown services 269,	hotels 231	St Mary (Zadar) <b>95</b>
278, 279	map 174–5	St Mary (Zagreb) <b>159</b>
car rental 278, 279, 281	restaurants 247	St Mary of the Snows (Belec) 217
driving around Croatia 277–8	Cetina Valley Nature Park 134	St Michael (Osijek) 194, 196
driving to Croatia 275	Chaky, Demetrius, Count 208	St Nicholas (Barban) 66
road conditions and hazards 278	Charlemagne, Emperor 37	St Nicholas (Nin) 102
see also Tours by car	Charles Robert, King of Hungary 40	St Nicholas (Pula) <b>62</b>
Casinos <b>256</b> , 257	Charles VI, Emperor 72, 81 Charles, Archduke of Austria 105,	St Nicholas (Rijeka) 72
Castles and fortifications Bedekovčina 215	177	St Nicholas (Trogir) <b>117</b> SS Peter and Paul (Osijek) <b>195</b>
Čakovec <b>208</b>	Children 266	St Simeon (Zadar) <b>94</b>
Dubrovnik 148–9	Christopher, St 84, 85	St Theresa (Požega) 189
Đurđevac 219	Churches	St Vincent (Svetvinčenat) 66
Fort of Knin 112	Capuchin Church of Our Lady of	Sanctuary of St Mary of Bistrica
Fortress (Sisak) 178	Lourdes (Rijeka) <b>72</b>	(Marija Bistrica) 202, 215
Frankopan Castle (Novi Vinodolski)	Chapel of St Anthony of Padua	Sanctuary of the Trinity (Ludberg)
82	(Rab) <b>85</b>	218
Gorica 214	Chapel of St Mary of Formosa	Shrine of Our Lady of Trsat (Rijeka)
Kamerlengo Castle (Trogir) 117	(Pula) <b>62</b>	73
Kamičak Fort (Sinj) 113	Church of the Assumption (Rijeka)	see also Cathedrals; Monasteries
Miljana 214	72	and convents

Čigoć	D	Donji Miholjac <b>200</b>
hotels 231	Đakovo 190	Donner, George Raphael 139
restaurants 247	festivals 21, 29	Dora Pejačević Memorial (Našice)
Čikola, River 107, 112	restaurants 247	28
Cinema <b>256</b> , 257	Đakovski Vezovi (Đakovo)	Draguć 70
Čipiko Palace (Trogir) 116	29	Drašković, Janko 42
Citadel (Hvar) 132	Dalle Masegne, Antonio 110	Drašković, Juraj 211
Cittanova see Novigrad	Dalmatia 19, <b>91–53</b>	Drava, River 23, 186, 194, 197, 198
City Tower (Rijeka) <b>72</b>	food and drink 234–5	Drinking customs 237
Civic Museums see Museums and	history 39, 41,42, 44, 91	Drniš <b>112</b>
galleries	hotels 228–30	Duboković, Nika 131
Claudius, Emperor 64	Kornati National Park	Dubrovnik 13, 15, 49, 90, <b>146–52</b>
Claudius II, Emperor 34	100-1	airport 275, 279
Climate 28–31, 264	Krka National Park 106–7	festivals 31
Climbing <b>260</b> Clothes 266	map 92–3 Mljet National Park <b>142–3</b>	history 40, 45 hotels 228
ties 252–3	restaurants 240–45	map 149
Coach travel <b>275</b> , 276, 278–9	stone <b>140</b>	restaurants 241–2
Coffee 236	Ten Days on the Dalmatian Islands	Street-by-Street map 146–7
Coins 271	13	Summer Festival 29, 255, 257
Communications 272–3	vineyards 135	Two Days in Dubrovnik 12
Communist Party 44–5	Zadár Archipelago <b>98–9</b>	Dubrovnik Cable Car 12, <b>152</b>
Constantine Porphyrogenitus,	Dalmatinac, Juraj (Giorgio Orsini)	"Dubrovnik School" 152
Emperor 146	<b>24</b> , 27, 125, 140	Dugi Otok 98
Constantius, Emperor 122	Cathedral of St Domnius (Split)	hotels 228
Consulates 267	123	restaurants 242
Contarini, G 59	Cathedral of St James (Šibenik)	Dujam, Count of Krk 181
Contieri, Jacopo 68	110, 111	Dujšin, Dubravko 162
Convents see Monasteries and	Minčeta Tower (Dubrovnik) 148	Dujšin-Ribar, Cata 162
convents	Pag Town 105	Duknović, Ivan 115
Count's Palace (Šibenik) 108 Crafts 251–2	Rector's Palace (Dubrovnik) 151 Šibenik 108–9	Dulčić, Ivo 159
Credit and debit cards 270–71	Stafileo Palace (Trogir) 114	Đurđevac <b>219</b> Dürer, Albrecht 158
in restaurants 233	Ston 137	Duty-free allowances 264
in shops 250	Dance 254	Dvigrad (Duecastelli) 66
Cres 74	Dance of Death (Vincent od Kastav)	_
hotels 226	25	E
restaurants 238	Dance Week (Zagreb) 28	Easter 28
Crikvenica <b>82</b>	Dante Alighieri 66, 159	Economy 20
hotels 226	Danube, River 23, 186, 191,	Elaphite Islands 12, <b>152–3</b>
Crime 268 Crkvine 135	192, 193	Electricity 267 Eleuterius, St 56
Croatian History Museum (Zagreb)	Kopački Rit Nature Park 198 Darda <b>193</b>	Eltz family 192
160, <b>164</b>	Daruvar 188	Email 272
Croatian Museum of Naive Art	hotels 231	Embassies 267
(Zagreb) 160, <b>165</b>	restaurants 247	Embroidery 251
Croatian National Theatre (Osijek)	Days of Hvar Theatre (Hvar) 28	Bizovac 200
195	Dell'Allio, Domenico 206	Đakovo 29, 190
Croatian National Theatre (Split)	Department stores 251	Emergencies 268, 269
254, 257	Desa, Duke 142	Entertainment 254–7
Croatian National Theatre (Zadar) 254, 257	Dešković, Branislav 168 Dialling codes 272, 273	Entomological Museum (Varaždin) 207
Croatian National Theatre (Zagreb)	Dignano see Vodnjan	Erdödy, Karl, Count 180
12, <b>166</b> , 254, 257	Diocletian, Emperor 34, 35	Erdödy family 176, 206, 215
Croatian National Theatre Ivan pl.	Palace of Diocletian (Split) 49,	Erdut <b>192</b>
Zajc (Rijeka) 254, 257	122–3	Erdut Agreement (1995) 45,
Croatian National Tourist Board	portrait of 123	192
265, 267, 276	Salona 118, 119	Ernestinovo 193
Croatian Natural History Museum	Dionysios of Syracuse 33, 128	Esterházy family 193
(Zagreb) 160, <b>162</b>	Disabled travellers <b>265</b> , 267	Ethnographic museums
Croatian One-Minute Film Festival	in hotels 224	of Istria (Pazin) 67
(Požega) 28	Distant Accords (Meštrović) 124	Mošćenice 68
Croatian Wine Exhibition (Kutjevo) 28 Croats 37, 38	Diving <b>259</b> , 261 Dobričević, Lovro <b>25</b>	Split 120–21 Staro Selo (Kumrovec) 214-15
Čulinović, Juraj 98	Doctors 268–9	Zagreb 167
Currency <b>271</b>	Dolac Market (Zagreb) 12,	Županja 190–91
Cussa, Michele 177	155, 159	Etiquette 265, 266
Customs and etiquette 266	Dominican Monastery (Dubrovnik)	Eugene, Prince of Savoy
Customs information 264	12, 147, <b>152</b>	193
Cuvaj, Slavko 43	Domnius, St 118, 123, 125	Euphemia, St 58
Cycling <b>260</b> , 277, 281		
Cyril, St 37, 71	Donat, Bishop 97 Donegani, Ignazio 190	Euphrasian Basilica (Poreč) 26, 48, <b>56–7</b> , 78–9

Euphrasius, Bishop 56, 57	Frankopan, Franjo Krsto 41, 158,	H
Europe Avenue (Osijek) <b>194</b>	181, 208	Habsburg empire 19, 41, 42–3,
European Union 45, 148	Frankopan, Krsto 181	51
Exchange offices 270	Frankopan, Martin 73	Hauser, Eduard 195
F	Frankopan, Nikola 82 Frankopan family 41, <b>181</b>	Hayez, Francesco 75 Headquarters of Slavonia (Osijek)
Fažana (Fasana) <b>59</b>	Bakar 81	197
Feast of St Blaise (Dubrovnik)	Kraljevica 81	Health <b>268–9</b>
21, 31	Krk 80	Hegedušić, Krsto 25, 218
Felbinger, Bartol 160, 165	Novi Vinodolski 82	Heinz, Antun 167
Fellner, Ferdinand 166, 168 Ferdinand, Archduke 41	Ogulin 178	Hektorović, Petar 130, 131 Hektorović Palace (Hvar) 132
Ferdinand, Archauke 41 Ferdinand, Emperor 208	Okić 176 Ozalj 177	Helen, St 127
Ferdinand of Habsburg 72	Rijeka 73	Helmer, Hermann 166, 168, 207
Fernkorn, Anton Dominik 159	Senj 83	Heraclius, Emperor 37
Ferramolino, Antonio 148	Franks 37	Hercer Palace (Varaždin) 207
Ferries 276, 279	Franz Ferdinand, Archduke 43	Hiking <b>260</b> , 261
Festival of the Bumbari (Vodnjan) 21, 30	Franz Joseph, Emperor 43, 69, 178 Fruit juices 237	Hilleprand Prandau family 200 History <b>33–45</b>
Festival of Croatian Tambour Music	Funicular railway, Zagreb 281	History of Croatia (Meštrović)
(Osijek) 28		163
Festival of the Golden Strings of	G	Hlebine Gallery 205, 218
Slavonia (Požega) 30	Gaj, Ljudevit 42, 211	Hlebine school <b>25</b> , 165, 218
Festival Klapa (Omiš) 29 Festival of Satire (Zagreb) 28	Galerius, Emperor 122 Galeta, Ivan Ladislav 169	Holidays, public 31 Höller, Carsten 169
Festivals 28–31	Galleries see Museums and galleries	Holy League 41
Korčula 139	Gallery of Old Masters (Zagreb)	Hospitals 268–9
Filipović, Antun 169	12–13, <b>170–71</b>	Hostels <b>224</b> , 225
Filipović, Franjo 25	Gardens see Parks and gardens Garić <b>180</b>	Hotels 222–31
Film see Cinema Filotas 122, 123	Gate of Hercules (Pula) 63	bookings 224 Central Croatia 231
Fiore, Jacobello del 81	Gay and lesbian travellers 266	Dalmatia 228–30
Fire services 269	Gaži, Dragan 25	disabled travellers 224
Firentinac, Nikola 24, 27	Gena, Boris Burić <b>117</b>	grading 223
Cathedral of St James (Šibenik)	Generalić, Ivan 25, 165	Istria and Kvarner area 226–8
110, 111 Cathedral of St Lawrence (Trogir)	Woodcutters 25 Generalić, Josip 25	Northern Counties 231
115	George, Prince of Brandenburg	prices 222
Church of St Dominic (Trogir)	206	Slavonia and Baranja 231
117	Giovanni da Udine 158	Zagreb 230–31
Franciscan Monastery (Orebić)	Glagolitic Alley, document trail <b>71</b>	Hrvatska Kostajnica 179
137 Loggia (Trogir) 116	Gojković, Matej 115 Golden Gate (Split) <b>120</b>	Hum 70 restaurants 238
Our Lady of Charity (Hvar) 133	Golf <b>261</b>	Hum, Mount (Vis) 129
St John the Baptist (Trogir) 116	Gora 178-9	Hungarians 38, 39, 40
Fish Market (Trogir) 117	Görner, Josip 180	Hvar 13, 15, <b>130–33</b>
Fishing <b>259</b>	Gorup family 214	festivals 28, 29
Food and drink The Flavours of Croatia <b>234–5</b>	Gothic architecture 26 Goths 36	hotels 228–9 map 130–31
picnics and self-catering 233	Gotovac, Tomislav 169	restaurants 242
shopping 253	Grabar-Kitarovic, Kolinda 45	Hvar Town (Hvar) 10, <b>132–3</b>
What to Drink 236–7	Graberje Ivanićko	map 133
see also Restaurants The Fort (Tvrđa, Osijek) 49, 194	restaurants 247 Gračišće <b>67</b>	1
Street-by-Street map 196–7	Gradac 135	Ibrišimović, Luka 189
Fort of St John (Dubrovnik)	Granicije, Gabrijel 188	Icon Collection (Korčula) 139
147, <b>149</b>	Grape Festival (Buje) 30	Illness 268–9
Fort of St John (Šibenik) 109	Green travel 277	Illyrian Movement 42
Fort of St Michael (Šibenik) 109 Fort of St Nicholas (Šibenik) 109	Greeting to the Sun (Zadar) <b>96</b> Greetings 266	Illyrians 33, 34 Ilok <b>191</b>
Forum (Zadar) <b>96</b>	Gregory, Bishop of Nin 102, 207	hotels 231
Francis I, Emperor 194	Gregory VII, Pope 38, 39	restaurants 248
Franciscan Monastery (Dubrovnik)	Grimani family 66	llovik 75
150 Erangaž Mihanović Robert 27	Grisignana see Grožnjan	Ingoli, Matteo 134
Frangeš-Mihanović, Robert 27 Art Pavilion (Zagreb) 168	Groppelli, Marino 146 Gros, Antoine Jean	Innocent XI, Pope 41 Insurance, health 269
Mihanović monument (Klanjec)	Madame Recamier 170	International Children's Festival
215	Grožnjan (Grisignana) 54	(Šibenik) 29
Mirogoj Cemetery (Zagreb) 169	Gučetić, Ivan 152	International Doll Festival (Zagreb)
war memorial (Osijek) 194	Guides, tipping 265	30
Frangipane, Mario 181 Frankopan, Catherine 209	Gundulić Imagining Osman (Bukovac) 168	International Festival of Theatre (Pula) 29
	(	,

Junčić, Matej 153

International Folklore Festival Krapie Kačić Miošić Andrija 127 135 (Zagreh) 29 hotels 231 International Jazz Festival (Grožnian) Kamerlengo Castle (Trogir) Kristofor, Bishop 82 117 Križ 190 Kampor 85 Križevci 219 International Small Scene Theatre Festival (Rijeka) 28 Kanižlić. Antun 189 Krk 80-81 International Tennis Tournament Kanistran Ivan St191 hotels 226 Karađorđević dvnastv 44 map 80 (Umag) 29 restaurants 238 International Violin Competition Karlobag 105 Karlovac 177 Krk Summer Events 29 (Zagreb) 31 Internet 272 hotels 231 Krka National Park 15, 23, 106-7 Iron Gate (Split) 121 restaurants 247 map 106-7 Karst sinkholes 77 Krleža. Bela 162 Iclando Badiia 141 Kastav 69 Krleža. Miroslav 162 Biševo 129 festivals 31 Kršinić, Frano 168 Brač **126–7** restaurants 238 Kumrovec **214–15** Brijuni National Park 60-61 Keglević family 214, 217 restaurants 249 Kerdić, Ivan 159, 169 Kupa River 23, 177 Cres 74 Flanhite Islands 152-3 Kerempuh, Petrica 159 Kupelwieser, Paul 60 ferries 279 Kingdom of the Illyrian Provinces Kutina **180** Hvar 130-33 42 Kutievo 189 Klanjec 215 Korčula 138–40 factivals 28 Krk **80-81** Klis 113 restaurants 248 Lastovo 141 Kliaković, Jozo 112, 164, 169 Kvarner see Istria and the Lokrum 152 Klostar Ivanić 180 Kyarner area Klović, Julije 25 Lošini 75 Klovićevi Dvori (Zagreb) 161 Mljet 142-3 Knežević family 209 Pag 104-5 Lahin 67 Pakleni Islands 133 Knights Templar festivals 29 Rab **84–5** Castrum Ljubae (Ljuba) 102 l ace **251–2** Šolta 126 Kriz 180 Hvar Town 132 Vis 128-9 Našice 201 Lace Exhibition (Lepoglava) Požega 188 Zadar Archipelago 98-101 30 210 Seni 82 Istria and Kvarner area 51-89 Pag 105 Lacković, Stiepan 219 Brijuni National Park 60-61 Knin **112** Ladislaus, King of Hungary 38, 39, food and drink 234 Koločep **152-3** 158 history 39, 42 Koloman, King 19, 38, 39, 85, Ladislaus of Anjou, King of Hungary hotels 226-8 95.185 41.94 Land Gate (Trogir) 114 map 52-3 Komiža (Vis) 129 Plitvice Lakes National Park Land Gate and Walls (Zadar) 94 Konavle 153 22\_0 Königer, Aleksije 210 Landscape 22-3 Kont, Nikola 191 Langenberg, Franz 195 restaurants 238-40 Risniak National Park 76-7 Kopački Rit Nature Park 23, 49. Language 21, 265 Tour of the Fortified Towns 198-9 phrase book 295-6 Lactovo 141 70-71 restaurants 248 Ivanić-Grad 180 Koprivnica 218 festivals 31 Iveković, Oton 167, 189 Lavsa 101 restaurants 249 Iveković, Sanja 169 Korana, River 88, 177 Lenković, Ivan 83 Korčula 10 13 15 138-40 Lenuci, Milan 166, 167 festivals 21, 28, 29, 30, 139 Leo X. Pope 83, 218 Jablanac 83 hotels 229 Leopold I. Emperor 72, 181 Jacub Pasha 40 map 138-9 Lepoglava 210 Janković, Antun 188 restaurants 242 festivals 30 Kornat 101 Lerchinger, Anton 211 Jasenovac 179 lastrebarsko 174 176-7 Kornati National Park 23 48 Lerman, Dragutin 167 100-1 Lesbian travellers 266 restaurants 247 Jelačić, Josip 42-3 map 100-1 Leska trail (Risnjak National Park) Jelena. Queen 124 Košćec, Franio 207 76-7 Jelovšek, Franc 165 Košćec, Ružica 207 Levrnaka 101 St Anastasia (Samobor) 176 Košljun 81 Lighthouses, accommodation in Jelovšek, Kristof Andrei 165 Kováčić, Mijo 165 224-5 Jelsa (Hvar) 131 Kovačić, Viktor 162 Limski Channel 58 Koversada 58 Jerome, St 209 restaurants 238 Jewellerv 252 Kralievic, Miroslav 168 Lipik 188 JNA (Yugoslav People's Army) 45, 192 Kralievica 81 festivals 31 festivals 31 John of Trogir, Blessed 114 Lippi, Filippo 171 John Corvinus, King 201 Krapina 33. 211 Liubač 102 Josip Štolcer Slavenski Memorial festivals 30 Ljudevit, Prince 178 (Čakovec) 28 restaurants 249 Loggia (Rab) 84 Josipović, Ivo 45 Krapinske Toplice 216 Loggia and Clock Tower (Trogir) Joyce, James 62 hotels 231 116

restaurants 249

Lokrum 12, 152

Lonjsko Polje Nature Park 23, 173,	Maps (cont.)	Meštrović, Ivan (cont.)
180, 182–3	Split 121	Meštrović Gallery (Split) 124
Lopar 85	Thermal Spas tour 216–17	Mirogoj Cemetery (Zagreb) 169
Lopud 153	Trogir 115	Modern Gallery (Zagreb) 168
Loredan family 66	Varaždin 207	Monument of Bishop Gregory of Nir
Lošinj (Lussino) <b>75</b> hotels 226	Vis 128 Zadar 95	207 monument to Andrija Medulić
restaurants 238	Zagreb 156–7	168
Lost property 268	Zagreb: Upper Town 160–61	monument to Marko Marulić
Lotto, Lorenzo 125	Marcello, Niccolò, Count 108	(Split) 124
Louis I, King of Hungary 40	Marchiori, Giovanni 54	Mother and Child 163
Louis II, King of Hungary 40	Maria Anna, Empress 69	National Art Gallery (Split) 125
Louise of Aragon 181	Maria Banac (Meštrović) 24	Račić Mausoleum (Cavtat) 153
Lovran 68-9	Maria Theresa, Empress 219	Resurrection of Lazarus 163
festivals 31	Marija Bistrica 202, 204, <b>215</b>	St Mark (Korčula) 138
hotels 226	restaurants 249	St Mark (Zagreb) 164
restaurants 238	Marina 113	statue of Gregory of Nin (Nin) 102
Lubinsky, Rudolf 27	Marjan Peninsula 125	statue of St Blaise (Dubrovnik) 148
Lucić, Hanibal 133	Markets <b>250–51</b>	tomb of Cardinal Alojzije Stepinac
Ludbreg 218	Dolac Market (Zagreb) 12, 155,	158
Lukačić, Ivan 124	159	The Well of Life 166
Luke, St 73 Lumbarda <b>140</b>	Marmont, General 42, 64 Martinov, Peter 151	Woman by the Sea 163
Lussino see Lošinj	Marulić, Marko 40, 124	Methodius, St 37, 71 Metković
Lussiiio see Losiiij	Marun, Lujo 163	hotels 229
M	Marunada (Lovran) 31	restaurants 243
Madame Recamier (Gros) 170	Mary with Child (Meštrović) 164	Metzinger, Valentin 67, 176, 177
Magaš, Boris 125	Maslinica (Šolta) 126	Michelozzi, Michelozzo
Magazines 273	Maso di Bartolomeo 152	Bokar Fort (Dubrovnik) 149
Majláth Manor (Donji Miholjac) 200	Matthias Corvinus, King of Hungary	Minčeta Tower (Dubrovnik) 148
Makarska 134–5	40	Ston 137
hotels 229	Opuzen 136	Walls (Dubrovnik) 148
restaurants 243	Štrigova 209	Mihanović, Antun
Maksimir Park (Zagreb) 13, <b>169</b>	Veliki Tabor 214	monuments to (Klanjec) 215
Mali Brijun 60, 61	Mauro (sculptor) 115	Milano, Francesco da 94
Mali Lošinj 75	Maurus, St 56	Miličević, Paskoje 137
Malumbra, Toma, Bishop 138	Maximian, Emperor 122	Military Frontier (Vojna Krajina) 41,
Mana 101	Maximilian, Archduke 152	83, 173, 178, 185
Maps Brač 126	Maximilian, Emperor 181	Miljana 214
Brijuni National Park 60–61	Medieval Mediterranean Garden of	Milna (Brač) 126–7
Central Croatia 174–5	St Lawrence Monastery (MMG) (Šibenik) 108	Mimara, Ante Topić 166 Mimara Museum (Zagreb) 27,
Cres 74	Međimurje	166–7
Croatia 16–17, 48–9	festivals 31	Minčeta Tower (Dubrovnik) 93,
Dalmatia 92–3	Medović, Celestin	148
Dubrovnik 146-7, 149	Križevci 219	Ministry of Tourism 267
Europe 17	Požega 189	Mirogoj Cemetery (Zagreb) 13,
Fortified Towns tour 70–71	St Francis (Zagreb) 159	169
Hvar 130–31	Medović, Mato C 168	Mljet 91
Hvar Town 133	Medulić, Andrija	hotels 229
Istria and the Kvarner area 52–3	monument to (Zagreb) 168	Mljet National Park 13, 23, <b>142–3</b>
Itineraries 10–11	Mersi, Anton 211	Mobile phones 272
Kopački Rit Nature Park 198–9	Mesić, Stipe 45	Modern Gallery (Zagreb) 168
Korčula 138–9	Meštrović, Ivan 24, <b>163</b>	Modernist architecture 27 Mohács, Battle of 40
Kornati National Park 100–1 Krk 80	Baptistery of St John (Split) 120 birthplace 190	Mohammed II, Sultan 40
Krka National Park 106–7	Biskupija 112	Molat <b>99</b>
Lošinj 75	Bust of a Woman 190	Monasteries and convents
Mljet National Park 142–3	Church of the Most Holy	Benedictine Convent (Hvar) <b>132</b>
Northern Counties 204–5	Redeemer (Otavice) 112	Convent of St Justine (Rab) 85
Osijek 195	Dalmatinac monument (Pag	Dominican Monastery (Brač) 127
Osijek: The Fort (Tvrđa) 196–7	Town) 105	Dominican Monastery (Dubrovnik
Pag 104–5	Distant Accords 124	12, 147, <b>152</b>
Plitvice Lakes National Park 88–9	Gallery of Old Masters (Zagreb)	Dominican Monastery (Stari Grad,
Pula 63	170	Hvar) 131
Rab 85	History of Croatia 163	Franciscan Convent of St Anthony
Rijeka 73	Kaštilac (Split) 124	Abbot (Rab) 85
Risnjak National Park 76–7	Loggia (Trogir) 116	Franciscan Monastery (Dubrovnik)
road map <i>see</i> Back Endpaper	Maria Banac 24	150
Salona 119 Šibenik 109	Mary with Child 164	Franciscan Monastery (Hvar Town) 133
Slavonia and Baranja 186–7	Meštrović Atelier (Zagreb) 161, <b>162</b>	Franciscan Monastery (Sinj) 113
Siavorila ariu bardilja 100-/	101, 102	rianciscan monastery (SIIIJ) 113

(Mošćenice) 68

Music **255** 257 Monasteries and convents (cont.) Museums and galleries (cont.) Ethnographic Museum (Split) Monastery of the Holy Cross factivals 28\_31 (Osiiek) 197 120-21 Sea Organ (Zadar) 96 Monastery of St Andrew (Rab) 84 Ethnographic Museum (Zagreb) Musical Biennial of Zagreb 28 Monastery of St Ivan Kapistran Musical Evenings in St Donat (Ilok) 191 Ethnographic Museum (Župania) (7adar) 29 190-91 Monastery of St. James (Osijek) Ethnographic Museum of Istria Monastery of St Mary (Mljet) 142 (Pazin) 67 Naive painting 24, 25 Nakić Petar 108 Monastery of St Nicholas Ethnological Museum- Staro Selo (Orahovica) 201 (Kumrovec) 214-15 Napoleon I. Emperor 40, 41, 42, 51 Narona 136 Our Lady of Grace (Split) 125 Fishing Museum (Komiža) 129 Visovac (Krka National Park) 106 Gallery of Old and Modern Našice 201 Money 270-71 Masters (Varaždin) 206 festivals 28 Morelli, Captain 69 Gallery of Old Masters (Zagreb) restaurants 248 Morlach family 112 12-13. **170-71** National Art Gallery (Split) 124-5 Moronzoni, Matteo 96 Heritage Museum (Rovini) 58 National Parks 23 Morosini family 66 Historical and Maritime Museum Brijuni 23. 60-61 Kornati 23, 48, 100-1 Morovič, Ivan, Count 192 of Istria (Pula) 62-3 Mošćenice 68 Krka 15, 23, 106-7 Hlebine Gallery 205, 218 Mošćenićka Draga Icon Collection (Korčula) 139 Mliet 13, 23, 142-3 restaurants 238 North Velebit 23 Ivan Meštrović Gallery (Vrpolie) 190 Mother and Child (Mestrović) 163 Koprivnica Gallery 218 Paklenica 23, 103 Plitvice Lakes 14, 23, 48, 50, **88-9** Motorcycles 275 Malacological Museum (Makarska) Risniak 23. 76-7 Motorways 277 Motovun 70 Maritime and History Museum of National and University Library hotels 226 the Croatian Littoral (Riieka) 72-3 (Zagreb) 27 restaurants 238Mountains 22 National Theatre (Varaždin) 207 Maritime Museum (Orebić) 137 hiking in **260**, 261 Međimurie Civic Museum Naturism 266-7 Mraz, Franjo 25 Nerežišća (Brač) 127 (Čakoveć) 208 Meštrović Atelier (Zagreb) 161, **162** Murtić, Edo 169 Neretva, River 136 Museums and galleries Meštrović Gallery (Split) 124 Neum **136** Abbey Treasury (Korčula) 138-9 Mimara Museum (Zagreb) 27. New Castle (Split) 125 Antun Augustinčić Gallery Newspapers 273 166\_7 (Klanjec) 215 Nicephorus, St 67 Modern Gallery (Zagreb) 168 Nightclubs **255-6**, 257 Archaeological Museum (Split) Museum of Ancient Glass (Zadar) 125 Nin 102 Archaeological Museum (Zadar) 95 Museum of Arts and Crafts Northern Counties 203-19 Archaeological Museum (Zagreb) (Zagreb) 166 food and drink 235 hotels 231 Museum of Contemporary Art 12 168-9 Archaeological Museum of Istria (Zagreb) 13, 169 map 204-5 restaurants 248-9 (Pula) 63 Museum of Croatian Bauer Gallery (Novska) 179 Archaeological Monuments (Split) Thermal Spas tour 216-17 Brač Museum (Škrip) 127 Nova Gradiška 188 Museum of Fine Arts (Osiiek) 195 Branislav Dešković Gallery (Brač) restaurants 248 Museum of Krapina Neanderthal Novalia (Pag) 105 Civic Museum (Buie) 54 Men (Krapina) 211 Novi Mikanovci 190 Civic Museum (Ilok) 191 Museum of Moslavina (Kutina) 180 Novi Vinodolski 82 Civic Museum (Karlovac) 177 Museum of Nin Antiquities (Nin) festivals 29 Civic Museum (Koprivnica) 218 Novigrad (Cittanova) 55 Museum of Sacred Art (Trogir) 116 Civic Museum (Križevci) 219 restaurants 238-9 Museum of Sacred Art (Zadar) 95 Civic Museum (Našice) 201 Novska 179 Civic Museum (Požega) 189 Museum of Siniska alka (Sini) 113 Civic Museum (Samobor) 176 Museum of Slavonia (Osijek) 194, Civic Museum (Sisak) 174, 178 Odescalchi, Livio, Commander 191 Civic Museum (Troair) 114 National Art Gallery (Split) 124-5 Odescalchi Manor (Ilok) 191 Civic Museum (Varaždin) 206 Pazin Town Museum 67 Ogulin 178 Civic Museum (Vinkovci) 191 Poreč Museum 55 Okić 175. 176 Civic Museum (Virovitica) 201 Regional Civic Museum (Slavonski Old Castle (Split) 125 Count's Palace - Civic Museum Brod) 189 Old Loggia (Šibenik) 108 Regional Museum (Ogulin) 178 (Šibenik) 108 Olib 99 Cres Museum 74 Split City Museum 120 Olive Days (Punat) 31 Croatian History Museum (Zagreb) Stari Grad Museum (Hvar) 130, 131 Olympics of Ancient Sports 160. **164** Town Museum (Korčula) 139 (Brodanci) 21, 30, 200 Croatian Museum of Naive Art Town Museum (Labin) 67 Omiš 134 Town Museum (Vis) 128 (Zagreb) 160, 165 festivals 29 Croatian Natural History Museum Valpovo Museum 200 Omišalj 80-81 (Zagreb) 160, 162 Vjekoslav Karas Gallery (Karlovac) On the hills - rainforest (Rabuzin) 165 Opatija 51, **69** Entomological Museum (Varaždin) Vučedol Culture Museum 192 festivals 31 Ethnographic Museum Vukovar Municipal Museum 192 hotels 226-7

Zagreb City Museum 12, 162

restaurants 239

Opeka Park (Vinica) 209	Palma il Giovane (cont.)	Polo, Marco 138
Opening hours 265	Labin 67	Pompey 34
restaurants 233	Oratory of the Holy Spirit (Omiš)	Population 20
shops 250	134	Poreč (Parenzo) 55–7
Opuzen 136	Our Lady of Charity (Hvar) 133	Euphrasian Basilica 48, <b>56–7</b> , 78–9
Orahovica 201	St Dominic (Split) 120	festivals 29
Orebić 137	St Dominic (Trogir) 117	hotels 227
hotels 229	Škrip (Brač) 127	restaurants 239
restaurants 243 Orsera see Vrsar	Sunj 153 Palma il Vecchio 59	Porto-Salviati, Giuseppe 66
Orsini, Bishop of Trogir 115	Pannonia 35, 36, 185	Postal services 272–3 Poste restante service 273
Orsini, Giorgio see Dalmatinac,	Parenzo see Poreč	Povlja (Brač) 127
Juraj	Parking 277	Požega <b>188–9</b>
Osijek 41, 186, <b>194–7</b>	Parks and gardens	festivals 28, 30
airport 279	Botanical Garden (Sjeverni	Pre-Romanesque architecture 26
festivals 28, 31	Velebit National Park) 83	Pregrada 214
The Fort (Trvđa): Street-by-Street	Botanical Garden of the Faculty of	Prehistoric sites 33
map 196–7	Science (Zagreb) <b>167</b>	Preko (Ugljan) 98
hotels 231	Maksimir Park (Zagreb) 13, <b>169</b>	Premuda <b>99</b>
map 195	Medieval Mediterranean Garden	Pribislao, Giovanni da 108
restaurants 248	of St Lawrence Monastery (MMG)	Pribojević, Vinko 133
Osor 74	(Šibenik) 108	Primošten 113
Osor Music Festival 29	Opeka Park (Vinica) 209	hotels 229
Otavice 112	Ribnjak Public Gardens (Zagreb)	Prince's Palace (Rab) 84
Otto I, Emperor 38	159	Private lodgings 223–4
Our Lady of Grace (Split) 125	Trsteno Arboretum 12, 152	Probus, Emperor 34
Outdoor activities 258–61	Parler, Ivan 164	Ptolemy 81
Ozalj <b>177</b>	Parliament Building (Zagreb) 161,	Pučišća (Brač) 127
P	164	Pula (Pola) 14, 35, 51, <b>62–5</b>
-	Pašman <b>99</b>	airport 279
Package holidays <b>275</b> , 276 Padovanino 66	Passports 264	Amphitheatre 51, <b>64–5</b> , 86–7, 255, 257
Cathedral of St Lawrence (Trogir)	Patsch, Karl 136 Paul, King 44	festivals 28, 29
115	Pavelić, Ante 44	hotels 227
Pag <b>104–5</b>	Pazin <b>66–7</b>	map 63
hotels 229	Pejačević, Dora 201	restaurants 239
map 104–5	Pelješac Peninsula <b>137</b>	Punat festivals 31
restaurants 243	Pellegrino of San Daniele 139	Putto (Verrocchio) 167
Pag Art Festival 30	Pensions 224	_
Pag Carnival 29	People's Peasant Party 43, 44	Q
Pakleni Islands 133	People's Square (Split) 121	Quadrio, Antonio 165
Paklenica National Park 23,	People's Square (Zadar) 94	D
103	Peristyle (Spilt) 120	R
Palaces	Personal safety 268–9	Rab 14, 15, 83, <b>84–5</b>
Archbishop's Palace (Zagreb)	Petar Krešimir IV, King 38, 39, 108	festivals 28, 29
158–9	Petretić, Petar, Bishop 158	hotels 227
Bishop's Palace (Križevci) 219	Petrol stations 277	map 85
Cipiko Palace (Trogir) 116	Pets, travel documents 264	restaurants 239–40
Count's Palace (Šibenik) 108	Pharmacies 268–9	Rabac 67
Hektorović Palace (Hvar) 132	Phones 272, 273	hotels 227
Palace of Diocletian (Split) 49, 120, 122–3	Phrase book 295–6 Pićan <b>67</b>	Rabuzin, Ivan 165 On the hills - rainforest 165
Prince's Palace (Rab) <b>84</b>	Picnics 233	Račić, Josip 168
Rector's Palace (Dubrovnik) 12,	Pietro di Giovanni 153	Rački, Mirko 168, 218
146, <b>151</b>	Pijade, Moša 210	Radauš, Vanja 159, 169
Sponza Palace (Dubrovnik) 27,	Pile Gate (Dubrovnik) <b>148</b>	Radić, Antun 43
147, <b>150–51</b>	Pincino, Lorenzo 115	Radić, Stjepan 43, 44
Stafileo Palace (Trogir) 114	Piškera 101	Radio 273
Viceroy's Palace (Zagreb) 160,	Pittoni, Giovanni Battista 105	Radovan, Master 24, 114
164	Pizzerias 232–3	Ragusa 40
Vojković-Oršić Palace (Zagreb) 27	Plague Column (Osijek) 196	see also Dubrovnik
Palatium (Mljet) 142	Plančić, Juraj 130	Ragusino, Antonio 150
Palma il Giovane	Pliny the Elder 152	Ragusino, Niccolò 152
Baška 81	Plisko Polje (Vis) 129	Railways see Trains
Cathedral of St Anastasia (Zadar)	Plitvice Lakes National Park 14, 23,	Rainfall 30
96	48, 50, <b>88–9</b>	Ranger, Ivan 25, <b>210</b>
Cathedral of St Lawrence (Trogir)	hotels 227	Krapina 211
115 Cathodral of St. Staphon (Hyar) 133	Ploče Gate (Dubrovnik) 147, <b>148</b>	Lepoglava 210
Cathedral of St Stephen (Hvar) 132 Church of the Annunciation	Plomin <b>68</b> Pola see Pula	St Jerome (Štrigova) 209 St John the Baptist (Varaždin)
(Svetvinčenat) 66	Police 268, 269	207
Euphrasian Basilica (Poreč) 56	registering with 264	St Mary of the Snows (Belec) 217
	. J · · · · · · ·	

Rapallo, Treaty of (1920) 44, 94	St Mark's Square (Zagreb) 48	Slavenski, Josip 208
Raphael 151Rapska fjera (Rab) 29	St Mark's Tower (Trogir) 117	Slavonia and Baranja 185–201
Rašica176	St Martin's Day 31	food and drink 235
Ratkaj family 214	St Roch's Day 30	history 38, 39, 45
Razmilović, Bone 125	St Sebastian (Carpaccio) 171	hotels 231
Rector's Palace (Dubrovnik) 12,	St Theodore's Day 29	Kopački Rit Nature Park <b>198–9</b>
146, <b>151</b>	St Vincenca's Day 28	map 186–7
Regatta Rovinj-Pesaro-Rovinj 28	St Vincent's Day (Međimurje) 31	restaurants 247–8
Reiffenberg, Baron 54	St Vitus, Mount (Brač) 127	Slavonski Brod 186, <b>189</b>
Religion 21	Sali (Dugi Otok) 98	festivals 28–9
Renaissance architecture 27	Salona 35, 36, <b>118–19</b>	restaurants 248
Rendić, Ivan 131, 169	map 119	Slavs 36–7
Renoir, Pierre-Auguste	Salt trade <b>102</b>	Smajić, Petar 165, 193
The Bather 166	Samobor 176	Smoking 265
Rescue services 269	hotels 231	Snakes 269
Responsible tourism 267	restaurants 247	Soardo Bembo family 59
Restaurants 232–49	Sanmicheli, Michele 94, 108, 109	Sobota, Giovanni 117
Central Croatia 247	Santacroce, Francesco da 133	Sokolić, Dorijan 82
Dalmatia 240–45	Santacroce, Girolamo da 81	Šolta 13, <b>126</b>
Istria and the Kvarner area 238–40	All Saints' Church (Blato) 140	hotels 229
Northern Counties 248–9	Our Lady of Grace (Split) 125	Souvenirs <b>251–2</b>
Slavonia and Baranja 247–8	St Mary of Spilica (Lopud) 153	Spas <b>261</b>
tipping 265	Saplunara (Mljet) 143	Bizovačke Toplice 200
Zagreb 245–7	Šarengrad <b>192</b>	
see also Food and drink	Sava, River 23, 175, 180, 186, 190	Daruvar 188
Resurrection of Lazarus (Meštrović)	Scamozzi, Vincenzo 66	Lipik 188 Romans 35
163	Scarpa, Iginio 69	
Ribar, Dr Ivan 162	Schmidt, Friedrich von 158, 190	Thermal Spas tour <b>216–17</b> Varaždinske Toplice 217
Rijeka <b>72–3</b>	Scipio, Publius Cornelius 104	Special needs travellers <b>265</b> , 267
airport 279	Scipio Nasica, Publius 34	Spirits 236
festivals 28, 31	Scordisci 33, 34	Špišić Bukovica
hotels 227	Sculpture 24	hotels 231
map 73	Sea Gate (Trogir) <b>117</b>	
morčić jewellery 252	Sea Gate (Zadar) <b>94</b>	Split 13, 15, 21, 26, <b>120–25</b> airport 274–5, 279
restaurants 240	Sea Organ (Zadar) <b>96</b>	festivals 29
Risnjak National Park 23	Seitz, Ljudevit 190	hotels 229–30
Leska Trail <b>76–7</b>	Seitz, Maksimilijan 190	map 121
Roads see Cars	Self-catering 233	markets 250–51
Robba, Francesco 165, 217, 219	Seljan, Mirko 167	Palace of Diocletian 120, <b>122–3</b>
Roč 71	Seljan, Stevo 167	restaurants 243–4
Rodin, Auguste 163	Sellaio, Jacopo del	Sponza Palace (Dubrovnik) 27, 147,
Roksandić, Simeon 165	Virgin Mary with Jesus, John	150–51
Romanesque architecture 26	and an Angel 171	Sports <b>256–7</b> , <b>258–61</b>
Romans <b>34–6</b> , 51	Senj <b>82–3</b>	Spring in Croatia 28
Palace of Diocletian (Split) 120,	Sergia, Salvia Postuma 62	Square of the Loggia (Dubrovnik)
122–3	Seven Castles (Split) 125	150
Roman amphitheatre (Pula) 51,	Severus, Septimus, Emperor 34	Stafileo Palace (Trogir) <b>114</b>
64–5, 255, 257	Shopping <b>250–53</b>	Stari Grad (Hvar) 130–31
Roman Arch (Rijeka) <b>72</b>	Shrine of Our Lady of Trsat (Rijeka)	Stari Grad Plain (Hvar) 23
Salona 118–19	73	Stepinac, Alojzije, Cardinal 158, 210
Romualdo, St 58	Shrovetide Sezona (Kraljevica) 31	Stjepan, Ban of Bosnia 142
Romulus Augustus, Emperor 36	Šibenik 15, <b>108–11</b>	Stolnik, Slavko 165
Rosa, Salvator 115	Cathedral of St James 110–11	Stomorska (Šolta) 126
Rosandić, Toma 126	festivals 29	Ston 137
Roški Slap 107	hotels 229	hotels 230
Rösner, Karl 190	map109	restaurants 244
Rottman, Franjo 159	restaurants 243	Stone, Dalmatian <b>140</b>
Rovinj (Rovigno) 14, <b>58</b>	Sigismund, King 219	Stone Gate (Zagreb) <b>159</b> , 161
festivals 28	Sigismund of Austria 210	Storks 23, 198
hotels 227–8	Silver Gate (Split) <b>120</b>	Stradun (Dubrovnik) 12, <b>150</b>
restaurants 240	Simeon, St 94	Straub, Filip Jacob 211
Rufus, Quintus Minucius 34	Sinj <b>113</b>	Štrigova <b>209</b>
-	festivals 30	Strossmayer, Josip Juraj, Bishop 43,
S	Sinjska Alka (Sinj) 30, 113	170, 190
Safety <b>268–9</b>	Šipan <b>153</b>	Strozzi, Bernardo 75
Sailing <b>258–9</b> , 261	Šipanska Luka 153	Stubičke Toplice 216
Kornati Islands 101	Sisak 178	Student travellers 224
St Augustine and St Benedict (Bellini)	restaurants 247	Šubić, Stjepan 83
171	Skradin 106	Šubić-Zrinski dynasty 81, 181
St George's Castle (Split) 125	Skradinski Buk 106	Šubićevac Fort (Šibenik) 109
St George's Day 28	Škrip (Brač) 127	Sućuraj (Hvar) <b>131</b>
St Mark's Festival (Zagreb) 28	Skurjeni, Matija 165	Suđurađ 153

Šulentić Zlatko 179 United Nations 19, 45, 140, 185 Tower of Lotrščak (Zagreb) 12. Suleyman II the Magnificent Sultan 160 165 Urhan V Pone 73 40, 41, 196 Town Hall (Rijeka) 72 Hskoks 83 Sumartin (Brač) 127 Town Hall (Trogir) 116 Hstaše 44 Summer Carnival (Novi Vinodolski) The Town's Day (Lipik) 31 The Town's Day (Osiiek) 31 Summer in Croatia 28–30 Traditional handicrafts 251–2 Valdec Rudolf 27 167 Summer Festival (Hvar) 29 Traditions and customs 20–21 Valens, Emperor 34, 191 Summer of Margherita (Bakar) 29 Traffic information 278 Valentinian, Emperor 34, 191 Šuni 153 Trail of Glagolitic Documents 71 Valle see Bale Sunshine 29 Trains 275, 276, 278 Valnovo 200 Varaždin 206–7 Supetar (Brač) 126 Trakošćan 210-11, 212-13 Susak 75 hotels 231 festivals 30 Susanna and the Flders 170 restaurants 249 history 38-9 hotels 231 Sutinske Toplice 216 Trams in Zagreb 280-81 Sveti Križ Začretie Travel 274-81 map 207 restaurants 249 air **274–5**. 276. **277**. 279 restaurants 249 Svetvinčenat 66 Varaždin Castle 205. 206 buses 278, 279 Svršata 101 cars 275, 277-8 Varaždinske Tonlice 217 Central Croatia 174 VAT refunds 250 т Vecchia, Gasparo della 54 coaches 275, 276, 278-9 Dalmatia 92 Tasca Cristoforo 80 Vecchietti. Emilio 151 Taverns 232 ferries 276, 279 Večenai, Ivan 25, 165 Tax refunds 250 Istria and Kvarner area 52 Vegetarian food 233 Northern Counties 205 Vela Luka 140 Tayis tipping 265 Vela Ploča (Kornat) 101 Slavonia and Barania 187 in Zagreb 281 Velebit mountains 23, 103 trains 275, 276, 278 Tea 236 Zagreb 157, 280-81 Veli Briiun 60-61 Telašćica Nature Park 98, 100 Trhuliak Goran 169 Veli Lošini 75 Veliki Tabor 204. 214 Telephones 272, 273 Troos 22 Television 273 Trka na prstenac (Barban) 30 restaurants 249 Temperatures 31 Troair 15, **114-17** Veliko Jezero (Mljet) 142 Templar Knights see Knights hotels 230 Venantius, St 118 . Templar Veneziano, Paolo 25 map 115 Temple of Augustus (Pula) 62 Cathedral of St Mary (Rab) 84 restaurants 244 Convent and Church of St. Justine Tonnic 261 Trogiranin, Blaž Juriev 124 Terme Jezerčica 216 Trogiranin, Petar 84 (Rab) 85 Terme Tuhelj 216 Trpimir, Prince 38 Diocesan Museum (Krk) 80 Teuta, Queen 34 Trsat Castle (Riieka) 73 Dominican Monastery (Dubrovnik) Theatre 254, 257 Trsteno 12, 152 Theft 268 Tuđman, Franjo 45, 210 St Blaise (Vodnian) 59 Theodosius the Great, Emperor 36 Tuheliske Toplice Venice 38, 39, 40, 41, 51, 181 Thermal spas see Spas hotels 231 Ventura, Jurai 59 Thurn and Taxis family 177 Turkali, Juri 169 Veronese, Paolo 131, 167 Tiberius, Emperor 34, 35 Turks 40, 41 Verrocchio, Andrea del Tickets Trvđa (Osijek) Putto 167 Street-by-Street map 196-7 Vespasian, Emperor 64, 136 buses and trams (Zagreb) 280-81 Tvrdali (Stari Grad, Hvar) 130, 131 entertainment 254 Vicentino, Andrea 39 Ticks 269 Twin Gate (Pula) 63 Viceroy's Palace (Zagreb) 160, Ties, shopping 252-3 164 Vid 136 Time zone 267 Timotej, Bishop of Zagreb 158, 180 Uberti, Domenico 132 Vidov, Graur 115 Tintoretto 127, 131, 138 Ualian 98 Vienna, Congress of (1815) 42 Ujević, Tin 124 Tipping 265 Villa Angiolina (Opatija) 69 Uluz Ali 131 Tišov, Ivan 165, 219 Villa Stav (Rijeka Dubrovačka) 152 Titian 139, 151, 152, 206 Vinagora 214 Umag (Umago) 54 Tito, Josip, Marshal 44-5 hotels 228 Vincenca, St 139, 140 birthplace 214 restaurants 240 Vincent od Kastva 25 Brijuni Islands 60, 61 UNESCO (culture and science) Dance of Death 25 Vineyards, Dalmatia 135 Lepoglava 210 lacemaking 210, 251 Ogulin 178 Lepoglava 210 Velebit Vinica 209 Vis 128, 129 mountains 23, 103 Vinkovačke Jeseni (Vinkovci) 30 Tkon (Pašman) 99 **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** Vinkovci 191 Toma, Archdeacon of Split 123, 124 Ager (Hvar) 131 festivals 30 Tomislav, King 38, 168 Dubrovnik 92, 148 Vinodol Codex 82 Euphrasian Basilica (Poreč) 56-7 Virgin Mary with Jesus, John and an Tomislav Square (Varaždin) 206 Topolie 193 Franciscan Monastery (Hvar) 133 Angel (Sellaio) 171 Topusko Toplice 178 Plitvice Lakes National Park Virgin with Child and St Francis and Tourist offices 265, 267 88\_0 St Bernardine of Siena (Caporali) Tours by car Stari Grad Plain (Hvar) 23 Virius, Mirko 25, 165 Fortified Towns 70-71 Troair 114 Thermal Spas 216-17 Virovitica 186. 201 Unije 75

travellers

Vic 13 128\_9 Whitewater rafting 261 Zagorie 49 hotels 230 Wildlife 22-3 Zagreh **155–71** map 128 Brijuni National Park 60-61 airport 274, 279 restaurants 244 Kopački Rit Nature Park festivals 28-31 Visas 264 hotels 230-31 Višeslav, Prince 37, 124 Lonisko Polie Nature Park 180 map 156-7 Visovac Lake 106 107 Mliet National Park 142–3 markets 250 Vitturi Castle (Split) 125 Paklenica National Park 103 restaurants 245–7 Vivarini, Antonio 56, 85 Plitvice Lakes National Park 88-9 shopping centres 251, 253 Vivarini, Bartolomeo 75, 85 Risniak National Park 76 travel **280–81** Voćin 201 Windsurfina 259 Two Days in Zagreb 12-13 Vodcka, Tomas 190 Wines 237 Two Weeks in Croatia 14–15 Vodnian (Dignano) 59 festivals 28, 31 Upper Town: Street-by-Street map festivals 30 The Vinevards of Dalmatia 135 160-61 Zagreb City Museum 12, 162 Vojković-Oršić-Rauch Palace Winter in Croatia 31 Zagrebačko Kazalište Lutaka (Zagreb) 27, 160, 164 Woman by the Sea (Meštrović) 163 Voinomir, Prince 37 Woodcutters (Generalić) 25 (Zagreb) 254, 257 Voltolini, Giuseppe 190 World War I 19, 43, 51 Zavala (Hvar) 131 Vrboska (Hvar) 131 World War II 44, 51, 128, 129, 179, Zela, Ivan de, Bishop 190 Vrhovac, Maksimilijan, Bishop 169 Žičara cable car (Zagreb) 193 Vrpolie 190 281 γ Vrsar (Orsera) 58 Živogošće 135 hotels 228 Yachting see Sailing 7maievac Vukovar 192 Youth hostels 224, 225 restaurants 248 hotels 231 Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) 45, 700. Zagreb 169 restaurants 248 192 Zotikos 122 Yugoslavia 19 Zrin 179 W – Zrinski, Juraj 177 Croatia secedes from 45 Walking establishment of Kingdom of 7rinski, Nikola 41, 181 hiking in the mountains 260, 261 Čakovec 208 44 in Zagreb 280 Darda 193 7 Walls (Dubrovnik) 12, 148 tomb of 209 7ahok Walls (Zadar) 94 Zrinski, Petar 41, 181 Water, drinking 237 restaurants 249 execution 181, 208 Waterfalls 7adar 15, 92, **94-7** tomb of 158, 209 Krka National Park 106-7 airport 279 Zrinski dvnastv 41. 181 Plitvice Lakes National Parks 88-9 Church of St Donat 97 St Helen (Čakovec) 209 Weather 28-31, 264 festivals 29 Zrin 179 hotels 230 forecasts 273 Župania 190-91 Weber, Max 155 map 95 Zvečai Week of Kajkavian Culture (Krapina) restaurants 244-5 restaurants 247 Zadar Archipelago 98-101 Zvonimir, King 38, 39 Wheelchair access see Disabled Kornati National Park 100-1 assassination 112

map 98-9

Baptistery of St John (Split) 120

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#### **Principal Author**

Leandro Zoppè was born in Venice and graduated in Political Science from Padua University. At present he lives in Milan where, as a historian, he works as a freelance journalist and writer of tour guides and historical, artistic or naturalistic books

#### Contributors

Božidarka Boza Gligorijević, Public Relations Manager for the Croatian National Tourist Board in Milan: Graeme Harwood, author and gourmand.

#### **Text Revision**

Sanja Rojić (University professor), Iva Grgic (University professor)

# Checking of Practical Information

Lucia Čutura Viktor Jovanović Marušić, Jane Foster

#### Senior Editor, UK Edition

Jacky Jackson

#### Proof Reader

Alessandra Lombardi, Stewart J Wild.

# Indexer

Helen Peters

## Fact Checker

Katarina Bulic

#### Revisions Team

Louise Abbott, Claire Baranowski, Marta Bescos, Sonal Bhatt, Nadia Bono-mally, Jonathan Bousfield, Louise Cleghorn, Karen DSouza, Anna Fischel, Anna Freiberger, Prerna Gupta, Kaberi Hazarika, Cincy Jose, Juliet Kenny, Sumita Khatwani, Kathryn Lane, Colette Levitt, Carly Madden, Alison McGill, Sam Merrell, George Nimmo, Nataša Novakovic, Susie Peachey, Lucy Richards, Ellen Root, Ankita Sharma, Julie Thompson, Priyansha Tuli, Vinita Venugopal, Ajay Verma, Dora Whitaker.

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# Phrase Rook

#### Pronounciation

- c "tc" ac in rate
- č "chi" as in church
- ć "t" is a soft t
- đ "d" is a soft d
- g "g" is a hard q as in get
- "v" as in yes
- j γ ' č \_ ch
- Ž shown here as "zh", sounds like the "I" in the French name lacques
- - "ai" shown here as "igh". sounds like "I" or the "igh" in night

Pomoći

Stanil

#### In Fmergency

Helpl Stop Call a doctor

Callan ambulancel Call the policel

Call the fire brigadel Where is the nearest

telephone? Where is the nearest hospital? Zovite doktoral Zovite hitnu pomoć!

Zovite policiju!

Zovite vatrogasce! Gdje je naibliži telefon?

naibliža bolnica?

Gdie ie

da

advey yey n-jah **blee**zhah holnitsa

moleem vas

dah

nomoch

stahnee

zoveetev

doktorah

nomoch

70veetev

**zo**veetey

zoveetev heetnoo

poleets**ee**voo

vatroh**gas**tsav

gdyey yey n-igh-bleezhee telefon

#### Communication Essentials

No Please Thank you Excuse me Hello Goodbye Goodniaht Mornina Afternoon Evening Vesterday Today

Yes

Tomorrow Here There What? When? Why? Whore?

molim vas hvala oprostite dohar dan dovidenia laku noo iutro popodne vočer iučer danas sutra tu tamo što?

kada?

zašto?

gdje?

Kako ste?

Dobro, hvala

Drago mi ie!

Vidimo se

Gdje je/su?

Kako mogu

doći do...?

Govorite li

engleski?

Molim vas,

Žao mi ie

Ne razumijem

daleko do...?

Koliko je

U redu

hvahlah op**ros**teetey doh**ar** dan doveedienva lakoo noch vootroh po**pod**nev vecher voncher danas sootrah tahmoh shtoh **ka**da zachtoh gdyey

kakoh stev

dobroh, hvahlah

# **Useful Phrases**

How are you? Very well thank you Pleased to meet you See you soon That's fine Where is/are How far is it to...?

How can I get to...?

Do vou speak English? I don't understand Could you speak more slowly please?

možete li govoriti sporije?

#### Useful Words

I'm sorry

big smal hot cold annd bad enough well open closed left right

veliko malo vruć hladan dobar loš dosta dobro otvoreno zatvoreno lijevo

desno

dragoh mee vev veedeemoh sey oo redoo adyey yey/soo **ko**likoh yey dalekoh doh. kakoh mogoo dochee doh... govoreetev lee **eng**leskee nay raz**oom**eeyem moleem vas mozhetev lee go**vor**eetee

**ve**leekoh mahloh vrooch hlahdan dohar losh dostah

sporiyey

zhaoh mee vev

dobroh ot**vohr**enoh zat**vohr**enoh leeyevoh desnoh

straighton near far un down early late entrance exit toilet more

ravno hlizu daleko aore dolie rano kasno ulaz izlaz viča manie

Koliko ovo

košta?

Volio bib

Imatoli 7

Primate li

Samo gledam

Kad otvarate?

kreditne kartice?

ravnoh hleezoo dalekoh aorev dolvev ranoh kasnoh oolaz eezlaz Vevtsev veeshev manyey

#### Shopping

less

How much does this cost? Lwould like Do you have 7 I'm just looking Do you take credit cards?

What time do you open? What time do vou close?

This one That one expensive chean size (clothes) size (shoes) white black red vellow green hlue haken bank books hop butcher's cakes hop

hair dresser's news agent's/ tobacconist post office shoe shon

chemist's

market

fishmonger's

supermarket travel agent

Siahtseeina

art gallery

cathedral church garden library museum tourist information centre town hall

closed for holiday

bus station railway station

Staying in a Hotel Do you have Imate li sobu? a vacant room?

double room single room soba room with a bath soba sa

kupatilom tuš

kalikah ayah koshta valiah haa eematev lee. Samoh gledam

preematey lee credeetnev carteetson kad ot**var**atev

Kad zatuarato? kad zat**var**atev

Ovaj Onai on-igh skupo skoopoh ieftino vefteenoh veličina el**ee**chinah broj broy biielo beeyeloh tsrnoh crno tsrvenoh crveno žuto zhootoh zeleno zelenoh nlavo nlavoh nekara nekarah hanka hankah knjižara knyeezharah mesnica mesnitsah slasteecharnah slastičarna apoteka apoh**tek**ah ribarnica reebarnitsah tržnica trzh**nee**tsah frizer freezer trafika trafeekah

pošta noshtah prodavaonica prodava**on**itsa cipela tseenelah supermarket **soo**permarket putnička pootneechka agents**ee**vah agencija

galerija galer**ee**yah umjetnina oomyetneenah katedrala kate**dral**ah crkva tsrkvah /urt knjižnica **knyee**zhneetsah muzej moozey

turistički ured too**reest**eechkey **oo**red gradska vijećnica gradskah veeyech**nee**tsa zatvoreno zat**vor**enoh zbog zbog praznika prazneekah autobusni aooto**boos**nee kolodvor **kol**odvor

željeznički

kolodvor

dvokrevetna soba jednokrevetna

eematey lee soboo

**zhel**yeznichkih

kolodvor

dvokrevetnah sobah yednokrevetnah **sob**ah sobah sah koopateelom toosh

slana srdela

škampi na buzaru

školjke na buzaru

špageti frutti

di mare

portir norto norti امء col calt nasta stuffed with kliuč klyooch tioctonina tiactonoonah I have a reservation lmam eemam meatandrice rezervaciju rezervatseevoo ulia oolyoy oil boiled vegetables varivo vareevoh Eating Out Drinks Have you got a table for...? Imata li stal za 2 eematev lee stol zah hijelovino beeveloh veenoh white wine Želim I want to 7heleem ch-igh čai toa reserve a table rozorvirati stol rezerv**ee**ratee stol crno vino tsrnoh veenoh red wine The bill please Molim vas. račun moleem vas. gaz**eer**anah sparkling mineral gazirana rachoon mineralna voda meener**al**nah water vahsam Lam a vegetarian vodah vegeterijanac vegetereev**an**ats kavah coffee kava waiter/waitress konobar/ konobar/ negazirana neygazeeranah still mineral konobarica kono**bar**itsah minoralna voda magnaralnah water ielovnik velovneek wodah wine list vinska karta **veen**skah kartah peevoh nivo hoor alass čača chachah . rakija rakeevah cnirit hottle boca hotcah tamno pivo tamnoh peevoh stout (dark hoor) knifo nož nozh travarica trav**ar**eetsah spirit flavoured vilinčka veelvooshkah fork with harbs cnoor žlica. zhlaatsah ..... . . . . . . . . . .... broakfact doručak doroochal lunch ručak roochak Numbers vočora vecherah dinna glavno jelo glavnoh veloh main course c nula noolah prediela nredvelah ctartors iedan vedan dva dvah Menu Decoder 3 tri troo biiela riba bee**yel**ah **reeb**ah "white" fish 4 četiri chateeree pet hlitus bleetvah Swice chard net hrudet broodet fish stow 6 čost chast čevapčići chevapcheechee meathalls 7 sedam sedam crni rižot hlack risotto ternee reezhot 8 osam osam (prepared with 9 devet **de**vet cuttlefish ink) deset **de**set desert desert dessert iedanaest vedanest glavno ielo glavnoh veloh main course dvanaest **dvah**nest grah heans grah 13 trinaest treenest gulaš qoolash goulash 14 četrnaest chetrnest lohster iastog vastog petnaest petnest iuha yoohah soun 16 šestnaest shestnest kuhano koo hanoh cooked sedamnaest **se**damnest maslinovo ulie masleenovoh olive oil 18 osamnaest osamnest oolvev 10 devetnest devetnaest meso na žaru mesoh nah zharoo barbecued meat 20 dvahdeset dvadeset miješano meso meej**esh**anoh mixed grilled dvadocetijedan dvahdosotoo mesoh meats **ve**dan na žaru nah zharon harborund dvadesetidva dvahdeseteedvah ocat **ot**sat vinegar palačinke 30 trideset treedeset palacheenkay nancakes papar tridesetiiedan treedeseteeyedan papar nenner paški sir pashkih seer sheen's cheese 40 čatrdasat chatrdeset 50 pedeset **pe**deset from Pag 60 čazdacat chazdeset pečeno pechenoh baked 70 sedamdeset cedamdeset piletina peeleteenah chicken plava riba plavah reebah blue" fish 80 osamdeset osamdeset predielo 90 devedeset **de**vedeset predveloh starters 100 prilog preelog side dish sto stoh pršut prshoot smoked ham 101 stoiiedan stohee**ye**dan pržene lignje przhene leegnyey fried squid stoidva stohee**dvah** prženo przhenoh fried 200 dvjesto dveestob ramsteak ramstevk rump steak 500 petsto **pet**stoh ražnjići razh**nyeech**ee nork kehahs 700 sedamsto sed**am**stoh riba na žaru reebah nah zharoo barbecued fish 900 devetsto dev**et**stoh rižot frutti di mare reezhot frootee seafood risotto 1.000 teesonchoo tisuću dee marey 1.001 tisućuijedan teesanchaa rižot sa škampima reezhot sah scampi risotto ee**ve**dan shkampeemah Time calata calatah calad salata od salatah od octopus salad One minute iedna minuta yedna meenootah hobotnice hobotneetsev One hour iedan sat yedan saht sarma cabbage leaves sarmah Half an hour pola sata polah sahtah sir cheese Monday . ponedieliak po**ned**velvak cladoled sladoled ice cream Tuesday utorak **oo**torak slanah srdelah

salted sardines

and onion

and onion

seafood

spaghetti with

scampi in tomato

shellfish in tomato

shkampee nah

boozaroo

boozaroo

dee marey

shkolkay nah

shpa**ge**tee **froo**tee

Wednesday

Thursday

Saturday

Sunday

Friday

srijeda

petak

subota

nedielia

četvrtak

sreejedah

chetyrtak

soobotah

nedvelvah

petak